



TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL ACTION ITEM

Committee: Committee of the Whole- Administration & Operations

Date: April 13, 2026

Department: Finance and Operations

Topic: Ferguson Municipal Drain- Final Schedule of Assessment (2023 Maintenance).

Purpose:

To present the Final Schedule of Assessment for the 2023 maintenance works completed on the Ferguson Municipal Drain and authorize staff to invoice the benefiting landowners for their respective share of the costs including the application of funding through the Agricultural Drainage Infrastructure Program (ADIP).

Background:

Maintenance work including a full culvert replacement and erosion control measures was completed on the Ferguson Municipal Drain in 2023 in accordance with the provisions of the Drainage Act (Ontario) by Willis Kerr Contracting Limited. Greer Galloway, a division of Jp2g Consultants prepared the Final Schedule of Assessment outlining the costs allocated to benefiting properties.

Under Section 74 of the Drainage Act, municipalities are responsible for maintaining municipal drainage systems within their jurisdiction. This work generally includes clearing the drain, such as removal of beavers/dams, trees, repairing/replacing tile or more extensive work including culvert replacements.

The project is eligible under ADIP, a provincial cost-share program administered by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness that provides funding support to municipalities and landowners for eligible municipal drainage infrastructure improvements.

If a property owner fails to make payment within 30 days, decides not to participate in the payment plan, or defaults on the payment plan then the assessment will be added to the tax roll. Attached is the final assessment schedule for payment.

Assessed values under \$50.00 are typically not billed out and are absorbed through general taxes.

Policy Implications:

The maintenance and cost recovery for municipal drains is governed by the Drainage Act. The Township is required to assess and recover the cost of drainage works from benefiting landowners in accordance with the legislated Schedule of Assessment.

Strategic Plan Implications:

The maintenance of the Ferguson Municipal Drain supports the Township’s Strategic Plan by maintaining and protecting essential municipal drainage infrastructure and supporting agricultural land drainage.

Financial Considerations:

The costs of the Ferguson Municipal Drain maintenance works will be recovered from benefiting landowners as outlined in the Final Schedule of Assessment. A portion of the eligible costs will be eligible through ADIP. The Township’s portion from the assessment, including properties with amounts below \$50.00 that will not be billed individually, totals \$1,555.43. The remaining balance of \$20,235.18 will be billed to the benefiting landowners and UCLG after the application of the ADIP grant. Section 65 severance costs shown in the engineer’s schedule are not part of the maintenance levy and are not ADIP-eligible.

Recommendation: That Committee recommends to Council:

- 1) That the Final Schedule of Assessment for the 2023 maintenance works completed on the Ferguson Municipal Drain be received; and
- 2) That staff be directed to prepare a by-law for Council’s consideration to adopt the Final Schedule of Assessment; and
- 3) That staff be authorized to invoice the benefiting landowners in accordance with the Schedule of Assessment and the provisions of the Drainage Act (Ontario); and
- 4) That any unpaid assessments be added to the municipal tax roll in accordance with the Drainage Act.



Director of Operations



Treasurer