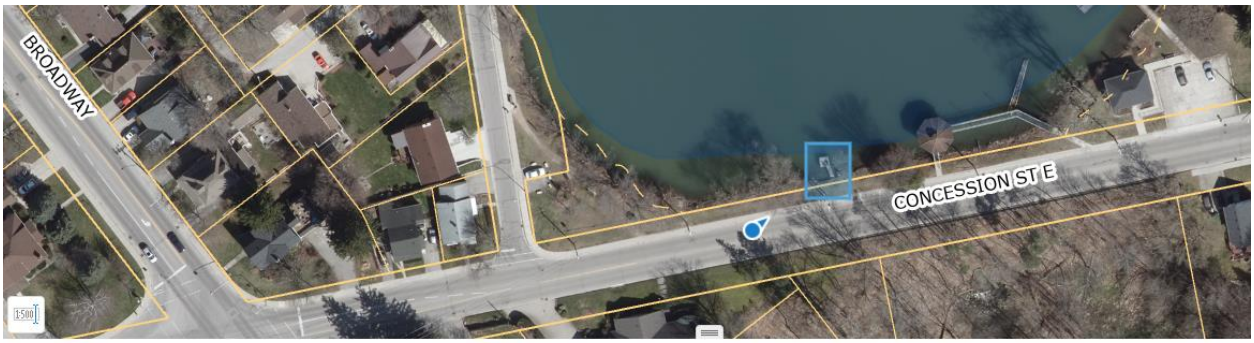
Subject: Lake Lisgar – Low Flow Weir Repair
Report Number: OPD 25-013
Department: Operations and Development Department
Submitted by: Leo Ferreira, Manager of Engineering
Meeting Type: Council Meeting
Meeting Date: Monday, March 24, 2025

RECOMMENDATION

A. THAT report OPD 25-013 titled “Lake Lisgar – Low Flow Weir Repair” be received as information;
B. THAT per Sec. 6(b) of Purchasing Policy 5-006, Council permit the Lake Lisgar – Low Flow Weir Repair project to be “sole sourced” to Watech Services Inc.; and
C. That the Director of Operations and Development be authorized to award the Lake Lisgar - Low Flow Weir Repair project to Watech Services Inc., as the received quote falls within the approved budget limits.

BACKGROUND

In 2024, Residents and Community Groups alerted Staff to a growing concern of sediment deposits at Lake Lisgar’s north end. Reportedly, the low flow weir (pictured below) had not been operational since about 1969:



The subsequent consultation with Long Point Region Conservation Authority resulted in the Town retaining Watech Services Inc. (Watech), a trusted and experienced local Contractor, to inspect, assess, and report on the condition of the subject weir together with possible restoration strategies and estimated budgets. Watech reported that "The low flow valve itself is seized in the closed condition" recommending "replacement of the valve mechanism and new screening" where $120,000 was later included in the Town's 2025 Budget for completing same.

DISCUSSION

Community Groups have raised monies and attempted sediment removals themselves via boats with pumps and tubing as recently as 2022; their efforts, though valiant, were insufficient as the volume of sediment deposit outweighs their ability to remove same.

Restoring the low flow weir is the necessary first step to permit the lowering of the water level such that heavy machinery may then enter on to the lakebed and more effectively remove sediment at the lake's north end.

The Town has worked with Watech on two separate occasions since June 2024; once for the weir assessment above, and more recently for an emergency type repair at the Lake Lisgar Overflow structure. Watech has proven itself to be reliable and efficient.

On February 28, 2025, the Engineering Department received a quote from Watech for the design and repair of the Lake Lisgar weir. The quoted amount falls within the approved budget limits.

In recommending that the purchasing process be forgone, Staff have considered the following, in no particular order:

a) Watech is a trusted and experienced local Contractor
b) The scope of work is specialized
c) There is no known alternative qualified Contractor locally
d) Watech has intimate knowledge of the existing conditions and the required remedial work
e) Watech has defined the scope of work and designed the necessary repair
f) Watech has demonstrated responsiveness, quality workmanship, and fair billings

CONSULTATION

Director of Operations and Development, Manager of Engineering, and Purchasing Coordinator.

FINANCIAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

The Town's approved 2025 budget includes an allocation of $120,000 for this project, funded entirely through the capital levy.

CORPORATE GOALS

☐ Lifestyle and amenities
☐ Customer service, communication and engagement
☐ Business attraction, retention and expansion
☐ Community growth
☒ Connectivity and transportation
☐ Not Applicable

Does this report relate to a specific strategic direction or project identified in the Community Strategic Plan? Please indicate section number and/or any priority projects identified in the plan.

Goal – Tillsonburg residents and businesses will be connected to each other, regional networks, and the world through effective traditional and digital infrastructure.

Strategic Direction – Develop a robust, long-term asset management plan to inform evidence-based decisions on the maintenance, rehabilitation and replacement of municipal infrastructure.

Priority Project – *Ongoing Projects* - Asset Management

ATTACHMENTS

N/A