



**Date:** Wednesday, December 4, 2024

**From:** Kevin Verkindt, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure

**Subject:** Award of Contract for Engineering Services for  
Pottawatomi Watermain Extension

**Report** DEV2024-064

This document and its attachments are public and available in an accessible format upon request.

### **Recommendation**

THAT Staff Report DEV2024-064, Award of Contract for RFP 2024-07, Engineering Services for Watermain Extension to the Community of Pottawatomi be received.

AND THAT a contract with the firm of WT Infrastructure Solutions Inc. for RFP 2024-07 in the amount of \$387,885.00 (excluding HST) be awarded.

AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute a contract for services.

### **Background**

Twenty-five residential properties on Atkins Drive currently receive municipal water from a well. The municipal supply was constructed in 1987. Water received by properties from the system passes all require health and quality standards, but residents on the system have experienced concerns in respect to water pressure and colouration from the system. The system has increasingly been prone to repairs leading to periods of the well being out of commission and water being supplied from trucks. The existing system is the most expensive system in the Township resulting in the highest fixed rates, and the system is not yet sustainably financed.

Based on a review of the system, individual wells for each property are not deemed a suitable solution and the municipalities consultants have indicated that the concerns associated with the system would likely not be addressed by a new well being installed in a similar location.

In 2017 the Township undertook a Class Environmental Assessment to examine the possibility of connecting the East Linton Water System along Grey Road 1, through the Brooke area, and then connecting to the Pottawatomi System. The current East Linton Servicing Master Plan indicates a longer-term desire to extend water servicing from the



East Linton system to Atkins Drive. However, these proposals remain draft at this time, unfunded and likely many years away from being implemented.

As an interim solution, which would see infrastructure of benefit to the longer-term plan installed, staff are working with the City of Owen Sound on an agreement that would see the Township assume existing City water supplies to the VLA subdivision in Brooke, and extend this service to Atkins Drive, along Somers Street and Young's Drive (and County Road 17B).

The Township would need to install a bulk meter point, potentially upgrade existing mains infrastructure in the VLA, and extend a new main to Atkins. New connections to this main would be required. The City of Owen Sound would also require a connection fee reflecting the new connections being added to its system.

## **Analysis**

A total project budget of \$2.5 million was approved in the 2024 budget for the extension of a watermain from the City of Owen Sound supply to the Community of Potawatomi.

The total project budget was established based on preliminary cost assessments, including estimates for construction and engineering fees. The engineering project scope includes pre-engineering, including public and Council presentations and public engagement, geotechnical and excess soils investigations, detailed engineering designs, well decommissioning plan, tender administration, contract administration, construction inspection and project management.

As part of the initial budgeting process, the engineering and contingency fees were anticipated to be approximately twenty percent (20%) of the construction budget. However, the technical and financial submissions received, and additional analysis of the project's technical complexity have led staff to believe that the total project construction budget may be higher than initially anticipated.

The bidding opportunity was issued on September 6, 2024 with a closing date of October 9, 2024. All proposals, including a technical proposal submission were opened at the Township of Georgian Bluffs Administration Building.

Five (5) proposals were received at the time of the proposal closing and the technical proposal submission was further evaluated by an evaluation team consisting of Township staff on October 25, 2024. The technical submission was to receive a score of 70% or greater for Township staff to evaluate the Proposal Price. One (1) proponent did not meet the minimum score; therefore, the Proposal Price was not evaluated further.

Staff are recommending that a contract be executed with the final top-ranked proponent, WT Infrastructure Solutions Inc.



Table 1 – Summary of Tender Submissions

| Bidder Name                      | Proposal Price \$<br>(Excluding Contingency+Taxes) | Technical Proposal Score % |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| WT Infrastructure Solutions Inc. | 351,885  | 77.00                      |

The following bidders also submitted proposals:

- GSS Engineering Consultants Ltd.
- Tatham Engineering Ltd.
- GEI Consultants
- R.J. Burnside and Associated Ltd.

Technical scores varied between 65% and 79.5% and pricing varied between \$351,885 and \$545,270.

WT Infrastructure Solutions Inc. placed third for the technical score; the technical score is only one of the factors considered in determining the most suitable proponent. The price was factored in addition to the technical score. As a result, the technical score and proposal amount in the amount of \$351,885 (excluding Contingency and HST) totaled a final score of 81.60% and was submitted by WT Infrastructure Solutions Inc.

Table 2 - Breakdown of the Project Costs:

| Item   | Engineering Services for Watermain Extension to Community of Pottawatomi (\$) |
|--|---|
| Tender including Contingency                 | 387,885.00  |
| Non-Refundable Portion of HST (Tender Value) | 6,826.25  |
| Total Project Cost                           | 394,681.25  |

## Financial Impact

The 2025 budget included \$2,500,000 (\$250,000 in 2025 for estimated design work and \$2,250,000 in 2026 for estimated construction). To date Council has committed



\$500,000 to be funded from the Canada-Community Building Fund Reserve for this project. Design work is anticipated to be an additional \$144,681.25 over the original budget amount, staff recommend reallocating this portion of the 2026 allocated costs for construction to be reflective of 2025 work. Following public engagement, a variety of options will be presented to Council for their review and direction on the scope of work to be completed with corresponding financial options of each potential construction option.

## **Strategic Priorities**

Demonstrate and Enhance Environmental Stewardship

Improve Communication, Collaboration and Transparency

Deliver Effective and Cost-Efficient Services

## **Conclusion**

Staff recommends that WT Infrastructure Solutions Inc. be awarded Proposal No. 2024-07 Engineering Services for Watermain Extension to the Community of Pottawatomi, in the amount of \$387,885.00 (excluding HST).

The original budget estimate for the Watermain Extension to the Community of Potawatomi was \$2.5 million. The engineering cost estimates have alerted staff that an increase in the overall project construction budget may be required. Staff are actively working to manage costs and will provide ongoing updates to Council as the project progresses. Approval of the budget for engineering services presented in Staff Report DEV2024-064 will allow staff to continue the project without delay and ensure that necessary engineering resources are secured to meet project requirements.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kevin Verkindt, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure



## Report Approval Details

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Document Title:      | Award of Contract for Engineering Services for Pottawatomie Watermain Extension.docx |
| Attachments:         | - Attachment 1 - Overview Map of Project Limits.pdf                                  |
| Final Approval Date: | Nov 21, 2024   |

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Michael Benner, Director of Development and Infrastructure

Niall Loble, Chief Administrative Officer