



## **2024 Budget Request**

**Request: Pottawatomi Water Supply**

**Department: Development & Infrastructure Services**

**Request ID: DEV2024BUDGET-C-02**

**Financial Ask: \$2.5M**

**Funding Source: Capital – To be Determined**

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

### **Background and Strategic Priority**

Demonstrate and Enhance Environmental Stewardship

The Township of Georgian Bluffs strives to become a leader in Environmental Stewardship by reducing energy consumption, reducing solid waste, increasing diversion rates of recyclable materials, and lessening the environmental impact of existing and future infrastructure through innovation and upgrading.

Objectives:

Manage drinking and storm water

Operate drinking water systems to maintain a high standard of public health and safety, protect the environment and ensure long term sustainability.

In November 2023, staff were directed by Council to bring back a recommended approach to improving water supplies to the Pottawatomi system through budget.

### **Analysis**

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.

## **Financial Impact**

It is likely that the financial impact of this budget request can be mitigated to some extent.

- 1) It is likely that a connection fee could be charged to residents on the existing system reflecting the new system being brought in.
- 2) It is possible that this project could attract infrastructure grants to support its implementation.
- 3) This project would be, eventually, part of a larger East Linton Water System extension. As such, this project would be an excellent candidate for debt financing.

Including a 20% contingency, the total estimated project costs are \$2.5M in 2024.



### Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2024 Budget Request Pottawatomie Water System.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Nov 14, 2023

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

Samantha Buchanan, Treasurer

Niall Loble, Director of Community Services