



Village of Rycroft
Request for Decision
Council Meeting Date: July 3, 2024

TOPIC: Engineering Assignment for 51 Street Water Main Crossing

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That Council award a contract to Urban Systems Ltd. with a budget of no more than \$60,000 for the completion of Preliminary Engineering, Detailed Design, and all work related to the acquisition of the necessary permits from both CN Rail and Alberta Transportation, as well as recommendations for re-construction for the 51 street water main line.

BACKGROUND: This is the original recommendation made at the April 16 Regular Meeting of Council. Since that time, Council has been investigating other alternatives to complete this task.

Administration recommends that the engineering project start now, as we know this main line is old and has already been compromised once last summer. It is much more cost effective to be proactive and get his taken care of, than be reactive and have to pay a premium for a situation requiring immediate attention.

Administration maintains the same recommendation because we have worked with Urban Systems before (for the directional drill project for our sewer Lift Station in 2021) and they have proven themselves professional and competent. Furthermore, as previously noted, they recently completed this same engineering task in the City of Dawson Creek, and are building it now.

Here are some project facts:

- **We need an engineer's stamp in the design of this project. CN Rail and AT will not allow the project under their infrastructure without a certified design**
- **Once the design is created, then the engineer will manage the Tender process.**
- **We will almost certainly get more than one bid – ensuring a fair market price - to construct the project from reputable companies**
- **The Engineer must remain involved to ensure the build is complete to their approved design**
- **As with any engineered construction project, we would expect to pay ~15% of the total construction cost for engineering services**
- **Approval of this assignment DOES NOT mean approval of any construction work in any fashion. Once the design and permitting are complete and there is a firmer cost estimate and a recommendation of construction methodology, Council will be advised and will approve next steps. Council will make the final motion to award the contract to the builder**

- **Any failure of this line will not only be inconvenient, time consuming, and expensive (look at Calgary), but it could cause hardships for our residents as supply volumes could be compromised.**

We have been advised that once an application has been submitted to CN Rail, it can take up to several months to receive approval and a list of working conditions. Alberta Transportation also has an approval process for crossing their right of way. Once approved, the permits are good for one year. Therefore, we want to start this project planning now in order to be ready for the 2025 construction season. If we do experience issues, permit extensions have been granted in the past.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: \$60,000 in the 2024 Capital budget.

POLICY AND/OR LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS: None

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. Council could defer the project to later years.

ATTACHMENTS: None

Peter Thomas

Chief Administrative Officer

June 27, 2024

Date