Staff Report

Report To: Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer
From: Don Giberson, Director of Infrastructure & Development
Date: January 13 2020
Report: ESD.20.03
Subject: Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 2019 Inspection Report South Huron Water Distribution System

Recommendations:
That South Huron Council receive the report from Don Giberson, Director of Infrastructure and Development RE: Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks 2019 Inspection Report South Huron Water Distribution System.

Purpose:
The purpose of this report is to notify Council of results of the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks inspection of the South Huron Drinking Water System and to mitigate the liability of those in an oversight role by ensuring that all Members of Council are fully informed.

Background and Analysis:
Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) carries out annual inspections of municipal drinking water systems. The Ministry carried out an inspection of the South Huron Water Distribution System on November 19, 2019 and met with Don Giberson, Director of Infrastructure and Development and Shawn Young, Manager of Environmental Services. This inspection covers the period from December 14, 2018 to November 19, 2019.
The Standard of Care provision of the Safe Drinking Water Act creates obligations for individuals who exercise decision-making authority over municipal drinking water systems. To mitigate the liability for Members of Council, you need to be properly informed regarding the state of the drinking water system. This includes requesting a copy of the annual Ministry inspection report and reviewing the findings. More information about Standard of Care can be found in “Taking Care of Your Drinking Water: A guide for members of municipal council” found on the Drinking Water Ontario website at www.ontario.ca/drinkingwater

The focus of this recent inspection was to confirm compliance with Provincial Legislation, as well as evaluating conformance with Ministry drinking water related policies and guidelines during the inspection period. The Ministry has a rigorous and comprehensive approach to inspection of drinking water systems that focuses on source, treatment and distribution components of the system as well as best management practices. The South Huron inspection report is based on a stand-alone distribution system that receives treated water from another regulated system, the Lake Huron Primary Water Supply System. The report contains all of the elements required to assess compliance issues and to ensure that the system was being properly operated and managed.

The Municipality received the final inspection report on December 12, 2019. The report noted several positive improvements to the system, such as the Re-chlorination system upgrades at the Huron Park Water Tower, planned SCADA system upgrades and the Re-chlorination system upgrades at the MacNaughton Drive Reservoir proposed in the 2020 budget. The report also noted the implementation of the electronic work order system (CMMS) that was discussed in last years’ inspection and that further electronic documentation is being considered such as fillable digital forms and digital log books. The report also noted the elevated lead found in plumbing samples of unoccupied homes in the Huron park Residential area and the Ministry’s satisfaction with the response to this issue. The report also noted that a Compliance Officer was being contemplated by the municipality.

The South Huron Water Distribution System was found to be in full regulatory compliance. There are no non-compliance issues, no best practice issues noted and no follow up action required.

A copy of the inspection report is attached and a copy has been posted for public viewing on the Municipal Web site.

In order to measure individual inspection results, the Ministry has established an inspection compliance risk framework based on the principles of the Inspection, Investigation & Enforcement Secretariat. The Inspection Rating
Record is included as an appendix to the inspection report. This provides the Ministry, the system owner and the local Public Health Unit with a quantitative measure of the drinking water system’s annual inspection and regulated water quality testing performance. IRR ratings are published (for the previous inspection year) in the Ministry’s Chief Drinking Water Inspectors’ Annual Report. The following is a summary of ratings for the South Huron Water Distribution System inspection:

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks - Inspection Summary Rating Record (Reporting Year 2019-2020)

Inspection Risk Rating: **0.00%**
Final Inspection Rating: **100.00%**

The South Huron Drinking Water System continues to achieve excellent inspection results, with low Risk Ratings and high Inspection Ratings. This is the eleventh consecutive year that South Huron has achieved the highest percentile inspection rating (top 5%) and the ninth time that South Huron has achieved a 100% inspection rating.

These results are only possible with very dedicated, competent frontline staff and the unwavering support of Council.

**Operational Considerations:**
This report is provide for information purposes and there were no alternatives considered.

**South Huron’s Strategic Plan:**
Section 6.2.2 of the Municipality of South Huron 2015- 2019 Strategic Plan identifies key objectives that are reflective of the collective perspectives of the strategic planning process.

The recommendations and actions outlined in this report are reflective of the following strategic objectives:

Administrative Efficiency and Fiscal Responsibility
Increased Communications and Municipal Leadership
Transparent, Accountable and Collaborative Governance
Dedicated Economic Development Effort

**Financial Impact:**
There are no financial implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation.
Legal Impact:

There are no legal implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation.

Staffing Impact:

There are no staffing implications for the Corporation resulting from the proposed recommendation.

Policies/Legislation:

2. Ontario Regulation 128/04 - Certification of Drinking Water System Operators
3. Ontario Regulation 169/03 - Ontario Drinking Water Quality Standards
4. Ontario Regulation 170/03 - Drinking Water Systems
5. Ontario Regulation 188/07 - Licensing of Municipal Drinking Water Systems

Consultation:

Shawn Young Manager of Environmental Services and Drinking Water System “Over-All-Responsible Operator” was consulted and contributed information to this report.

Related Documents:

1. Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks SOUTH HURON DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM Inspection Report #1-L5D6F

Respectfully submitted,

Don Giberson, Director of Infrastructure & Development