

Agenda Item: 4.1

## Administrative Backgrounder

**Public Presentation Request** 

# Title 9:05 a.m. Alcomdale Local Development Cooperative Presentation Purpose of Report To provide background information relating to the Alcomdale Local Development Cooperative's presentation to Council. Proposed Motion That Council refer the presentation from the Alcomdale Local Development Cooperative regarding the transfer of water and wastewater assets to Administration for future recommendation.

# Previous Council Direction

November 13, 2018 Regular Council Meeting

Motion 325/18: That Council approve "Option C", as presented by Administration, and as discussed at the closed session, October 23, 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Motion 326/18: That the Request for Decision titled "Closed Session - Alcomdale Infrastructure Transfer Request" as well as Attachments remain confidential per section 24 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

# Additional Background Information

- On October 2, 2017, Sturgeon County received a letter from the Alcomdale Local Development Cooperative (Alcomdale Coop or Co-op) wishing to negotiate the transfer of their water and wastewater infrastructure to the County (Attachment 1).
- A portion of the letter reads, "... the Co-op intends to negotiate
  the transfer of assets for both water and wastewater to
  Sturgeon County. The Co-op believes there is value to the
  County asset transfer and that a fair market value can be
  reached."
- The letter also mentions that Alcomdale residents and businesses wish to become utility ratepayers of Sturgeon County's utility.
- With the knowledge of the Alcomdale Co-op's intent, Sturgeon County retained Associated Engineering to undertake a desktop assessment of the Alcomdale water distribution (excluding pump station/reservoir), wastewater collection, and treatment systems under an Infrastructure Transfer Study.

- The main objective of the Infrastructure Transfer Study was to provide the County with the information needed to establish the level of risk and liability it would be faced with if Council chose to take ownership of Alcomdale's water distribution and wastewater system.
- The President of the Alcomdale Water Co-op made a presentation to Council on October 23, 2018.
- On November 13, 2018, Council voted not to accept the transfer of Alcomdale's water and wastewater infrastructure due to the significant financial liability that the County ratepayers would inherit. However, Council continued to support the community through an Operational Servicing Agreement.
- The Operational Servicing Agreement was rejected by the Alcomdale Local Development Cooperative Board of Directors.
- Administration has attended several recent Alcomdale Co-op meetings where the Board of Directors has indicated that the Co-op would look to raise the concept of an infrastructure transfer once again.
- Representatives from the Co-op will be in attendance at the May 3, 2022 Council meeting to make a presentation to Council.

### Attachment(s)

- 1. Attachment 1: October 2, 2017 Alcomdale Local Development Cooperative Ltd. Letter
- 2. Attachment 2: Alcomdale Local Development Cooperative Presentation

### **Report Reviewed by:**

Jeff Yanew, Manager, Utility and Waste Management Services

Scott MacDougall, Chief Operating Officer - COO

Reegan McCullough, County Commissioner – CAO

Date Written: April 21, 2022 Council Meeting Date: May 3, 2022