

Council looks at innovative sewer system

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tank would enter the Colborne sewage system and be processed at the Colborne treatment plant.

These tanks are pumped every seven to 10 years.

Council looked at a proposal last week that could cut the cost of sewage disposal in the industrial park by 50 per cent.

Currently businesses in the park are using septic systems and the township is looking at connecting them to the municipal system.

The system which was described to council is called a small bore sewer.

According to the president of Innovative Water & Sewer Systems, Richard Connelly, the system uses trenchless technology and clarifier tanks to significantly reduce the cost and impact of the installation.

In the system he proposes long stretches of 3-inch pipe would be laid underground, much like gas pipes are. They would be connected at each location in the park to clarifier tanks. These waterproof dual-compartment concrete tanks would complete primary treatment of sewage, dramatically reducing solids and suspended solids. The liquid which leaves the

Installation of this type of system takes much less time than conventional mains technology and produces minimal disruption to the community during construction.

Capital costs are 20 to 30 per cent lower than traditional methods and engineering costs are dramatically less says Mr. Connelly. Significant savings are accrued because roads do not have to be disturbed and the sewage plant would not have to be upgraded as soon.

The gravity-based method is sanctioned by the province and considered an innovative replicable technology, qualifying for low-cost financing.

Cost to individual users in residential installations is about \$11,000 to \$12,000 versus \$25,000 to \$30,000 for methods currently used says Mr. Connelly.

Quantity of sewage reaching the treatment plant is reduced by at least 30 per cent, as sludge and particles remain in the tanks.

Mr. Connelly's Ottawa-based company can design and build the system or contract the work out. He recommends the design-and-build method as more efficient. The entire system could be operational within a year of approval. It has a 50-year design life.

The Connelly proposal is one option facing council as it attempts to get a handle on where to go with its sewage issues, according to Reeve Jim Williams. Water and sewage are two areas where council needs to upgrade or add services.

CAO Merlin Dewing has proposed that businesses in the industrial park have an opportunity to look at the proposals for sewage collection. For a project to qualify as a local improvement a pre-determined percentage of the landowners must accept a proposal. That acceptance would include the method of payment or financing for the users.

Cost could be allocated on a per-footage-of-frontage basis.

LOCAL NEWS



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 PHOTOS BY BOB OWEN

MCKAGUES EN MASSE

Above left: They came from far and near for the McKague 2002 Reunion last weekend. Jeff McKague (Port Hope), Marcel Hebert (Louisiana) and Paul Von Blaricom of Port Hope chat while they wait for their turn at the buffet. Above: Susan and Sylvia McKague, descendants of William, sit on Colborne's town hall steps and make acquaintance with San Diego resident Margaret Hill (right), a descendant of John. The McKague women were visiting from Winnipeg. Left: There was lots to eat at the McKague family reunion. Members from as far away as California, British Columbia and the southern states were on hand for the two-day get-together.