

# Families, businesses will pay more for water

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY AUG. 23/12

BOB OWEN

**CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP** — Cramahe Council has more information about the impending arrival of water meters, thanks to a Sharratt Water Management Report. It is clearly a good-news, bad-news story, depending on who you are.

Currently, residents in Cramahe Township are billed a flat rate for water and sewers. But earlier this year the township approved the installation of meters on every user, with the expecta-

tion that everyone would pay per use, possibly by the end of the year.

According to figures released in the Sharratt Report, couples will pay less than half of the \$42 that they pay now for water. But families will see a slight rise to \$47 when bills reflect usage in 2013. The couples continue to benefit from low usage, with Sharratt predicting they will pay less in 2020 than they do now.

Not so for many others. Families will see their costs rise to \$90 a month by the

end of the decade, unless they begin to practice water conservation. The Sharratt Report also predicts steep climbs for businesses, but not in the first year. A restaurant which now pays \$737 a month will see its cost nearly double to \$1,436 by 2020. All other businesses modeled in the study showed similar percentage increases.

Owners of apartment buildings will have one meter for their water. If they choose, they can pay to have meters installed for each apartment and

charge their tenants for usage.

Waste water treatment charges are 112% of water costs for the next four years in the report, so anyone on town water can simply double their water cost and add a little. A restaurant paying \$737 a month in 2013 for water will pay another \$824 for waste water treatment. The rate jumps another 10% in 2014 and every year thereafter.

The authors of the report explain that the increases are needed to fund future capital expenditures, including the con-

struction of a new well in 2015, and water main replacement.

Council tabled the report and will hold a public meeting on Sept. 4 where residents and business operators will have their opportunity to share their views and ask questions. If all meters are installed by the end of October, the township hopes to send out at least one bill showing the flat rate charge customers are paying this year and the cost they would pay next year when the meters are being used.

CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP  
Xplornet

needs permits

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CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP — An official request for a letter of concurrence could not be rubber stamped by Cramahe Council on Aug. 14 until some of the details were worked out and questions answered.

Les Narday and Nic Parker were at the meeting on behalf of the Internet provider to answer questions. They didn't anticipate any township stipulations getting in the way. The men did not think that there was any requirement to get a building permit for the 30-metre-tall towers being located at 48 Elgin St. North and 331 Ventress Rd.

Cramahe chief building official Natalie Moroz-Cornell set them straight, reminding council that communication towers are designated structures and are required to have permits under provincial building codes. Moroz-Cornell went on to advise council and the Xplornet reps that a permit had not been issued for a previous tower now sitting on Neil MacGregor Road in Cramahe.

Cramahe resident Hugh Moore was at the meeting and he had questions, too.

Moore asked about the necessity to fence the towers and was told they are only needed to keep livestock out. Shields will be mounted on the towers to prevent climbing. Moore wondered about radio frequency concerns for those who live nearby. He was assured that federal health regulations cover these installations. A person would have to stand within five metres of the top of the tower for a lengthy period to run any risks of radiation.

The Xplornet reps explained how the tower locations are selected. The Eastern Ontario Warden's Council which is overseeing this project determines which areas in the communities along Lake Ontario have the largest populations. Then the Xplornet engineers determine where to locate the towers to reach the target areas. They like to use existing structures like silos, but none were available in the area of Cramahe selected. Many towers are 45 metres tall, but here they have been able to keep them shorter.

# Colborne break and enter leads to arrest of eight men

NORTHUMBERLAND NEWS AUG. 23/12

**COLBORNE** -- After an attempted copper theft in Colborne, the Northumberland County OPP arrested eight men in connection with the crime.

According to police, on Aug. 20 at 3:40 a.m., officers responded to HD Supply Utilities on Purdy Road in Colborne after a security company reported a break and enter in progress.

When officers arrived, police arrested one man while seven other suspects fled the area on foot. The OPP, its canine unit and emergency response team set up a perimeter in the area to search for the others.

At 10:30 a.m., officers had eight men in custody after seven suspects believed to have fled on foot were located by the OPP in the

area of County Road 25, west of Vernonville Road. Police said one man made it to Grafton where he called for a taxi, but was picked up by the OPP.

Northumberland OPP Constable Phil Clarke said an attempt was made to steal copper from the property.

Charged with break and enter to commit

an indictable offence are, from Toronto: Zsolt Bandula, 38; Zsolt Dolanyi, 19; Sandor Lakatos, 32; Tamas Nemeth, 43; Sandor Rezmuves, 20; and Ferenc Szigeti, 26. From Guelph are Laszlo Burai, 27, and Laszlo Miklos, 28. All eight men were held for a bail hearing on Aug. 20 and afterwards were remanded into OPP custody.