



REPORT N° ADMIN2020-04

Date	27/02/2020
Submitted by	Helen Collier, CAO
Subject	Flood 2020
File N°	-

1) **NATURE/GOAL :**

To review the 2020 flood operations.

2) **DIRECTIVE/PREVIOUS POLICY :**

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3) **DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATION :**

WHEREAS there has been severe flooding in 2017 and 2019; and

WHEREAS South Nation Conservation Authority is predicting that, there has been as much snow as last year;

THAT Committee of the Whole recommends that Council approve the proposed plan for 2020 should flooding occur, as outlined in report ADMIN2020-04

ATTENDU QU'il y a eu de graves inondations en 2017 et 2019; et

ATTENDU QUE l'office de la protection de la nature de la Nation Sud prédit que la quantité de neige cette année correspond à celle de l'année passée;

QUE le comité plénier recommande au conseil d'approuver le plan proposé en cas d'inondation pour 2020, tel que décrit au rapport ADMIN2020-04.

4) **BACKGROUND :**

That severe flooding occurred in 2017 and 2019 seeing the municipality incurred significant costs. The provincial government covered the 2017 costs. The 2019 costs will likely be covered. Costs that would be incurred for 2020 it is uncertain if they will be covered. The South Nation Conservation Authority is predicting that there is as much snow cover as in 2019. See attachment "1" (to be handed out Monday, the meeting was cancelled due to the severe snow storm and the documents were unavailable at the time of publishing this report. Therefore, careful consideration is necessary about what level of service the municipality will provide for 2020

5) **DISCUSSION :**

There are a number of considerations that must be given to the flooding situation.

First, and foremost the question has to be asked is this a state of emergency? A state of emergency is defined under the Municipal Act as when there is significant risk to human life. During the last two floods, the residents have had significant education through the electrical safety association, Red Cross, Public Health and our Director of Protective Services. Now that this has happened, twice several of the ratepayers have made provisions to accommodate flooding around their properties. The risk to human life becomes reduced with the education that has been provided and the precautions people have taken. In addition, it is now known that the City's infrastructure providing water and sewer services are challenged but not compromised during this flooding period. Therefore, not creating risk to others in the municipality.

Second, the municipality put a huge responsibility on staff to support the flooding effort, which was met with energy and enthusiasm. This however affects the productivity of the City's regular activities.

Third, the draw on non-human resources sand, bags, equipment and vehicles is significant.

In light of the above three points the following approach is recommended for consideration in 2020:

- 1) Communicate with the identified potential flood victims about preparedness
- 2) Provide instructional videos on how to build a proper sand bag wall, therefore, using less sand bags. Publish in all media venues the video on how to build a sand bag wall efficiently. This was filmed by the military while they were here last year.
- 3) Do not declare a state of emergency unless different circumstances present themselves
- 4) As the situation approaches the Directors would convene daily at 9 am to review the situation
- 5) Ensure that the City has enough sand bags on hand currently in stock there are 383,000 during the 2019 flood 273,000 were filled many were unused
- 6) Provide to the public a location to get sand bags and sand
- 7) Access to fresh drinking water at the water treatment plant
- 8) Road repair following the flooding
- 9) Daily surveillance not 24 hours
- 10) Volunteers would remain out of the City's control

Taking this approach will significantly mitigate potential costs to the

municipality. At any point in time should the situation or circumstances change the Mayor could declare a state of emergency.

6) **CONSULTATION:**

7) **RECOMMENDATIONS OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE/ OTHER DEPARTMENTS :**

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8) **FINANCIAL IMPACT (expenses/material/etc.):**

The expenses in 2019 are shown in attachment 2. If severe flooding occurs in 2020 it is expected that the costs would be similar in magnitude.

9) **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS :**

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10) **RISK MANAGEMENT :**

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11) **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS :**

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12) **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Attachment 1 SNC Flood prediction (to be handed out at the Council meeting)

Attachment 2 2019 Flood Expense list