



GRAND VALLEY

MEMO TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor Soloman and Members of Council
From: Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk
Meeting Date: 2025-06-10
Subject: Update – Wastewater Flows

Purpose

To provide an update on investigations into the increased flows into the Town's wastewater system.

Background

At the May 27, 2025 meeting, Council directed that, at each meeting going forward, an update be presented regarding the investigation of increased/excess flow into the Town's wastewater system, until the situation is resolved.

Discussion

Since the May 27, 2025 meeting, the following works have been completed:

- Drexler (GEI / Thomasfield) repaired the following leaks on Emma Street:
 - MH AA – groundwater flowing in above outlet
 - MH AC – groundwater flowing around and above inlet
 - MH AD – groundwater flowing into manhole from first manhole joint above inlet
 - MH AE – significant groundwater flowing into manhole from manhole joints
 - MH AG – significant groundwater flowing into manhole from old overflow pipe connected to the Grand River that was supposedly filled with grout.
 - Pipe joint between MH AF and AG – groundwater entering sewer
 - MH AH – potential groundwater flowing into manhole around ladder joints.
- Burnside staff completed an inspection of the entire Emma Street sewer system on June 3, 2025. The following was observed:
 - MH AD leak was not repaired.
 - Further investigation required in MH AB at the North(west) invert. Potential significant groundwater leak where pipe enters the MH.

After receiving original videos from GEI of when Emma Street sewer was first put into operation, we noticed that the lateral from a Water Street property was discharging a pretty significant flow of clear water into the sewer that was also observed in a subsequent CCTV.

- Town Staff, Bylaw and Burnside staff originally entered the home on February 20, 2025 and confirmed that the sump pumps were not directly connected to the sewer system
- Town Staff, Bylaw and Burnside staff entered the home on June 3, 2025 and completed a video of the sewer lateral. We were able to get the camera to approximately just past the property line (over 30 m), but where Drexler connected up and installed the new connection, we were unable to get past the pipe. We did not observe any flowing water in the lateral at all. There were two possible joints in the lateral pipe that seemed not to be plumb but no water was flowing in. We also observed an old cast iron clean-out connection that was corroded but no water was coming into the lateral from the clean-out.

Next Steps

- CCTV (video) of Emma Street sewer and laterals (up to property line) will be completed Friday June 6th, 2025. We will be able to confirm if the lateral at the Water Street property is running and if there is a leak or deficiency in the lateral from the new connection where we were unable to camera on June 3.
- A better view / confirmation of the potential significant leak at MH AB.
- Communication to Thomasfield (GEI/Drexler) regarding significant leak in MH AB. Propose plugging upstream MH AA to see if groundwater leaking in.

Financial Impact

Costs for Burnside time. Additional costs will be incurred where more camera work required.

Consultations

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