



GRAND VALLEY

STAFF REPORT

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk
Meeting Date: January 27, 2026
Report Number: 2026-023
Subject: Private Well Interference Report and Recommendation

Recommendation

THAT Council receives Report – Private Well Interference Report and Recommendation
AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to work with RJ Burnside and Associates and the property owner to have the well replaced and the old well decommissioned as soon as possible,
AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to include the necessary expenses in the Town’s drinking water system 2026 budget.

Executive Summary

Purpose

To present Council with information on a recent private drinking water interference incident and a recommendation to address the problems found.

Key Findings

The Town has an obligation to address the problems identified, as described in the letter from RJ Burnside and Associates Limited.

Financial Implications

The Town’s drinking water system will incur costs to address the problems.

Report

Background

Well #5 is located near private wells in the vicinity of the well system. Certain requirements under our Permit to Take Water (PTTW) place an obligation on the Town to address issues arising with these private wells.

Discussion

The Town administration has been notified of a problem with a neighbouring private well. When this problem was reported, the CAO contacted Grand Valley's drinking water system hydrogeologists at RJ Burnside, who responded in accordance with our PTTW obligations. Their report and recommendations are attached as Attachment 1 to this report. As noted in the report, it is recommended that the Town negotiate a cost sharing agreement with the property owner for the decommissioning of their existing well and the construction of a new well.

Financial Impact

The Town will negotiate an agreement with the property owner and will also assist with any applications for funding for which the decommissioning project may be eligible. Costs will be borne by the Town's drinking water system budget.

If Council approves this recommendation, the project will be procured as an Emergency Procurement because of the high probability of failure of the well. The CAO will work with Burnside representatives and the recommended drilling and construction firm to have the project completed as quickly as possible.

Consultations

Dave Hopkins, Hydrogeologist, RJ Burnside and Associates Ltd.

Joe Miedema, Dufferin Water Co. Ltd.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Report and Recommendation from RJ Burnside and Associates Ltd.

This report was submitted by

Meghan Townsend, CAO/Clerk

mtownsend@townofgrandvalley.ca.

This report was approved by

Meghan Townsend

Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

519-928-5652 extension 222