



The Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound

Council Report and Recommendation

Open or Closed Agenda:

Open

Section 239 (2), Municipal Act, Subsection:

n/a

Council Meeting Date:

February 16, 2016

Subject:

Removal of Fluoride from Drinking Water

TOMRMS File Number:

E05-FLUO

Spokesperson(s) Name and Title:

Jackie Johnston Boggs, Clerk/EA

Department:

Administration

Report Recommendation

By-Law:

Resolution:

Direction (For Direct Staff Follow-Up):

That staff be directed to make the draft by-law entitled, "Removal of Fluoride from the Parry Sound's drinking water", available for public comment for the 21 day notice period then bring back to Council for deliberation on March 15, 2016.

Direction (For Open Council Resolution):

Direction (For Open Council By-law):

Purpose:

To cease the addition of fluoride from the drinking water of the Town of Parry Sound.

Identify Relationship to Strategic Priorities:

Core Service - Yes

Key Performance Objectives (KPOs) - No

New Service, Project or Program - No

Does This Item Relate to Council's Strategic Priorities? - Our Community

Background/Report:

On January 26, 2016 Council passed two resolutions and provided direction to staff regarding the removal of fluoride from the Town's drinking water.

Resolution 2016-007 rescinded Resolution 2015-154, a resolution to upgrade the fluoridation system in the Tony Agnello water treatment plant, and the following

Direction:

That Council direct staff to notify the Ministry of Health that it is the Town's intention to cease adding fluoride to the Town of Parry Sound's municipal water system, effective the date of the passage of by-laws to that effect from the Town of Parry Sound and the Municipality of McDougall; and

That staff be directed to prepare a by-law authorizing the removal of fluoride to the Town's municipal water system; and

That said by-law be posted for the required 21-day Notice Period to provide the public an opportunity to provide input; and

That staff notify the Municipality of McDougall of Parry Sound Council's intentions.

This draft by-law is one of the steps required to implement the removal of fluoride from the Town's drinking water, by providing 21 days notice of the passage of the draft by-law (Attachment #1)

The following is a suggested time line for the steps required:

Who-Task	Date
-Clerk-Medical Officer of Health Notified	February 1, 2016
-Clerk-Draft By-law out for Public Comment	February 17-March 2, 2016

-Clerk-Draft By-law to Council for deliberation	March 15, 2016
-If by laws (by Parry Sound and McDougall) passed, discontinuance of fluoride as of:	Noon - March 18, 2016
-Clerk-Medical Officer of Health Notified of date and time the discontinuance of fluoride	March 16, 2016
-Health Unit- to notify Board of Health, primary health providers and the public about the discontinuance and assess the need for the provision of fluoride alternatives to segments of the two communities	Unknown
-Director of Public Works-Notify the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change that fluoride is being removed from the community water as Parry Sound will no longer be required to test for fluoride on the current schedule but every 60 months.	March 16, 2016 *(date subject to confirmation)

Question on the 2018 Municipal Election Ballot

Council also passed a resolution to add the following question to the Municipal Ballot in the 2018 municipal election:

Are you in favour of the fluoridation of the public water supply of this municipality?

A by-law adding this question to the 2018 ballot must be passed by Council at least 180 days before Voting Day (October 22, 2018) which would be no later than April 25, 2018.

The results of a question authorized by by-law shall be binding if,

- At least 50% of the eligible electors in the municipality vote on the question; and
- More than 50% of the votes on the question are in favour of those results.

Of course Council has the opportunity to add or not add fluoride after the vote (no matter which side has the majority) even though there was a less than 50% turn out to vote and can implement the democratic will of the eligible electors serviced by the Fluoridation system.

A public meeting will be held prior to the passage of such a by-law.

Advantages and/or Disadvantages of Recommendation:

Alternatives:

To not produce a draft by-law to discontinue fluoride to the Town's drinking water.

Cost/Financial Impact:

\$13,000 of the \$250,000 allotted has already been spent proceeding with the upgrades as requested by Council in June 2015 therefore \$237,000 saved by not continuing with the upgrades at the water treatment plant.

Included in Current Budget:

n/a

Attachments:

Attachment #1 - Draft By-law

(Accessible format available upon request)

CAO's Comments

Recommends Council Approval:

Recommends Council consider staff recommendation with the following comments:

The Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound

By-law 2016 -

Being a by-law to Discontinue the Fluoridation System for the Public Water Supply that Services the Town of Parry Sound and that portion of the Municipality of McDougall that receives treated water from Parry Sound.

Whereas the Town of Parry Sound has the authority to produce, treat and store public water for the Town of Parry Sound and a portion of the Municipality of McDougall; and

Whereas the Town of Parry Sound has a fluoridation system for the public water supply that services the Town of Parry Sound and a portion of the Municipality of McDougall, ("the *Fluoridation System*") pursuant to the *Fluoridation Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. F.22, as amended* (the "*Fluoridation Act*"); and

Whereas the Town of Parry Sound may, by by-law, discontinue a fluoridation system pursuant to the *Fluoridation Act*;

Now Therefore The Council Of The Corporation Of The Town Of Parry Sound Enacts As Follows:

1. The Town of Parry Sound shall discontinue the fluoridation system of the public water supply that services the Town of Parry Sound and a portion of the Municipality of McDougall.
2. This by-law shall come into force and effect on March 18, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.

Read a First time this 15th day of March, 2016

The Corporation of the Town of Parry Sound

By-law 2016 -

Mayor

Clerk

Read a Second and Third time, Passed, Signed and Sealed

This _____ day of _____, 2016

Mayor

Clerk

DRAFT