

# Cremona council briefs

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## Water issues resolved

Cremona residents now have clear tap water for the first time in recent years.

Luana Smith, chief administrative officer for the Village of Cremona, said a long-time water discolouration issue at the water treatment plant has been fixed after the public works foreman found the problem in April.

There was an open line that was allowing raw well water to enter the reservoir and mix with the already-treated water, causing discolouration because of high levels of manganese.

Manganese is a natural mineral in water that's not harmful to drink but will discolour laundry. The filtering system at the water treatment plant is designed to use chlorine to remove manganese and ammonia.

"Finally after all this time, by trial and error, Rick (Morand) found it," said Smith, adding the line has been closed.

"We're so happy."

Council approved spending \$27,000 from the village's water and wastewater reserves to clean the reservoir and purchase two new pumps during the May 17 council meeting.

Although the reservoir was cleaned only three months ago, Smith said manganese was built up inside and it needed to be cleaned again, which has a \$13,000 price tag.

"A second issue arose with the pumps being overworked by using the bypass system to take water directly from the water treatment plant to the distribution system," Smith reported to council.

"Pump 1 completely failed and pump 2 is being overworked and would likely fail if it was used for much longer," she said, adding village officials already purchased a pump to replace pump 1.

Council gave administration the go-ahead to purchase a second pump to have on hand. Each pump cost \$7,000.

## Street paving project in the works

Cremona council recently gave village officials the go-ahead to incur indebtedness and borrow \$300,000 for a street paving project.

Luana Smith, chief administrative officer for the village, said the village currently has no debt, but council would rather borrow money than deplete reserves to pave streets.

"That way it's not a burden on just the taxpayers now but it's spread out over 10 years," said Smith, noting the village is proposing a 10-year debenture.

Council gave first reading to a borrowing bylaw during the May 17 meeting and Smith said second and third readings will be presented in July.

As part of an \$800,000 project, village officials would like to pave 2<sup>nd</sup> Street West to Edey Close and Centre Street to Second Avenue.

Officials also plan to spend \$120,000 from reserves, \$379,982 from MSI capital funding and \$50,000 from the federal

gas tax fund.

Smith said village officials have wanted to pave these streets for many years. She said an infrastructure study was conducted in 2008 and they were listed as top priority.

She would like to see construction kick off by the end of June.