

Cremona officials spend \$51,577 more on project to pave road

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Village of Cremona officials are spending an extra \$51,577 to pave First Street East following a sidewalk replacement project that led to the discovery of a crushed culvert.

"When we were doing the sidewalks we had to do some flushing of storm drains and the one storm drain, actually at the corner of the village office, was so full of sand and gravel and when they cleared it out by flushing it they found out that the culvert was collapsed," explained Luana Smith, chief administrative officer for the village.

The culvert had collapsed approximately 25 feet into the road.

"So we had to replace that. And then when they went to put the asphalt down there wasn't hardly any asphalt and so you would have come off Railway Avenue and then went down," she said.

The asphalt was only half an inch deep rather than the normal two to three inches, which would have caused drainage problems as well, she said.

"Council was presented with an option to leave the pavement as gravel, put only the half-inch asphalt or do it properly and dig it down and pave up to First

Avenue East as well as in front of the fire hall."

Council approved awarding the contract to Gabriel Construction for \$11,700 during the Sept. 15 meeting to fix the crushed culvert, but paving the road wasn't part of the plan at that time.

To save costs on takedown and setup of construction, council informally approved for village officials to spend an extra \$51,577 from the capital reserve roads account to pave the road from Railway Avenue to First Avenue East, she said.

Council formally approved spending a total of approximately \$63,277 on the project during the Oct. 21 meeting.