

# COUNCIL REPORT

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**Meeting Date:** July 7, 2025  
**Department:** Engineering and Public Works  
**Report No.:** EPW-2025-34  
**Prepared by:** Steve Morriss, Drainage Superintendent  
**Submitted by:** Mark Ortiz, P.Eng. Director, Engineering and Public Works  
**Approved by:** Rob Browning, Chief Administrative Officer

**SUBJECT:** **Ballantine - Christina Road Drain 2023 – Tender Award**

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**RECOMMENDATION: THAT:** Council receive Report EPW-2025-34 Ballantine - Christina Road Drain 2023 - Tender Award for information, and further;

**THAT:** Council award the Ballantine – Christina Road Drain 2023 project to Gary Falconer Trucking Ltd., in the amount of \$113,554.00 excluding HST.

## **BACKGROUND:**

A petition for new drainage works was submitted to the Municipality on November 12, 2021 and was accepted by Council on December 6, 2021 where Council appointed Spriet Associates Ltd. to prepare a new engineering report on the matter.

An on-site meeting with affected landowners was held on January 11, 2022. Landowners raised concerns about a silted-in watercourse, inadequate outlet conditions, and private tile outlets buried under sediment. Landowners requested that the engineer assess options to improve and deepen the channel. Site investigations were conducted on March 17-18, 2022, with additional data collected on July 11, 2023. Their findings confirmed that the ditch required improvements due to:

- Inadequate surface and sub-surface outlet
- Blocked private tiles from debris and beaver activity
- Flat grades contributing to erosion

An informal public meeting to review the preliminary design and cost distribution was held on July 25, 2023, followed by further landowner feedback. A statutory meeting was held on January 15, 2024, where Council gave first and second reading to By-law #01-24. The Court of Revision was held on March 4, 2024, with no appeals, and Council passed the third and final reading.

On May 21, 2024, Council awarded the project to BKT Excavating for \$143,384.97 plus HST. However, due to delays on a culvert repair under Century Drive, the contract was not executed, and construction was deferred. A follow-up meeting with BKT Excavating on May 2, 2025 led to discussion of cost increase because of external delays. After reviewing construction trends in 2025 and consultation with Spriet Associates, it was decided to re-tender the project to seek better pricing and reduce financial impact on the affected landowners. As shown in the comments below, the project cost was reduced by approximately \$30,000 from the 2024 tender award price.

## COMMENTS:

A formal tender process was completed by the municipality where the municipality received six (6) bids for the project. Below are the summaries of the bids received on June 6, 2025.

<b>Ballantine - Christina Rd Drain 2023 – Municipal Drain Construction Project</b>	
<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Price Excl. HST</b>
Gary Falconer Trucking Limited	\$ 113,554.00
McNally Excavating	\$ 123,900.00
BKT Excavating Ltd.	\$ 145,215.00
Murray Mills Excavating & Trucking (Sarnia) Ltd.	\$ 163,703.00
Master Utility Division Inc.	\$ 257,750.00
JLH Excavating Inc.	\$ 295,455.00

Gary Falconer Trucking Limited submitted the lowest bid to construct the project, has adequate experience with Municipal Drain improvements, and is recommended to be awarded the contract for the Ballantine - Christina Rd Drain 2023.

## CONSULTATION:

- Manager of Public Works

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- The lowest bid to construct the project is \$113,554.00 excluding HST by Gary Falconer Trucking Ltd.
- Total estimated costs to be assessed to the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc for its road portion is approximately \$18,042.00. Sufficient funding is available in the 2025 Municipal Drain Road Assessment Capital Budget.
- Schedule 'C' - Assessment for Construction is included with the report.

## STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This matter is in accord with the following strategic priorities:

**Local Infrastructure and Capital Investment:** Households and businesses in Strathroy-Caradoc will be supported by reliable, financially responsible, and well-maintained infrastructure networks.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Engineers Report - Ballantine Christina Road Drain 2023 - Spriet Associates Ltd.
- Engineers PLO & Profile - Ballantine Christina Road Drain 2023 - Spriet Associates Ltd.
- Spriet Associates Ltd. – Recommendation Letter – Ballantine Christina Road Drain 2023