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How Many Manholes Within Colchester?

By Maurice Rees

One thing you might never think about is the number of manholes for sewer lines in the Municipality of Colchester. Another piece of data which might not cross your mind is Colchester has 211 Km of sewer lines valued at 105-Million.

Why the questions and why are they being asked? In January 2016, staff presented information to Council on the basics of asset management. In summary, asset management programs seek to answer the following questions: What do I own? Where is it located? What is its condition? What is it worth? When do I have to invest and how?

Since early 2016 staff has been updating its asset inventory. In a report to council on May 30th, staff report on the inventory process attempted to answer the first 3 questions - what do I own, where is it, and what condition is it in?

Preliminary information revealed Colchester owns the following infrastructure: Sewer Lines: 211 km, \$105 Million; Paved Roads: 23 km, \$8 Million; Gravel Roads: 7 km, \$1.5 Million; Sidewalks: 31 km, \$28 Million; Watermains: 35 km, \$9 Million; Pumping Stations: 31, \$6 Million; Sewage Plants: 5, \$42 Million and Water Facilities: 2, \$4 Million. Total value: \$203.5 Million

The goal of the asset inventory program is to collect more detailed and specific information on water, sewer, sidewalk and road infrastructure.

The Administrative Support Clerk for Public Works was assigned to the position of Project Coordinator - Asset Inventory in November 2016. The term was slated to last for 12 months, but was extended to the end of March 2018.

The asset inventory program was broken down into 4 main categories, mainly: sewer systems, water systems, roads and sidewalks.

On the subject of sewer systems the first activity involved the detailed collection



of information relating to the sewer system. Work focused on three main sewer system components: Manholes, Sewer Lines and Pumping Stations. For the current exercise treatment facilities were omitted as the asset inventory and condition assessment for facilities can be quite complex.

All existing sewer manholes were identified and assigned a unique identifier.

This was a critical first step in the process, as the inventory will eventually be stored and displayed in a GIS system. Unique identifier maps for all sewer systems and manholes were generated.

The answer to the question asked in the headline is summarized as follows: Bible Hill, 489; Brookfield, 106; Debert, 220; Granville Drive, 81; Great Village, 29; Hilden, 182; Kemp-town, 81; Mingo's Corner, 33; North River, 63; Salmon River, 212; Tatamagouche, 103; Truro Heights, 204; Valley/East Mountain, 478 and West Robie Street, 24. TOTALS 2305

Once each manhole was identified, the next step in the process included coordinating site inspections and condition rating processes for each manhole.

Based on the total number of manholes and the required manpower to inspect each manhole, a 5-year inspection plan was developed.

Now you know should someone ask you.



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