

Council Notes
October 20, 2010

The potential spring run-off is dominating council these days. The report from Saskatchewan Watershed Authority of a potential rise of 17 to 27 inches (in the last report I reported 15 to 24 inches, but 17 to 27 are the official numbers) led us to get a survey done to see where the high waterline would be. You might have seen stakes around with numbers on them. Then the next step was to employ an engineer to recommend a plan of action. There are two options being considered at this time. One is to build a berm in the affected areas that would be easy to maintain and esthetically pleasing with grass on the top and to the south and rip rap(rock) on the lake side. The other is to build up the highway so that it would also be a berm. There may be other options that they will come up with.

Any solution will be expensive so council is now approaching appropriate government members to discuss how a proposed solution might be handled.

Any solution must be long term. This lake is a saltwater, closed basin and water can only be removed by evaporation. Council has a graph from Watershed Authority for the last 100 years that shows the lake level was about the same as the current level from 1910 to 1930. There was twenty years of high water that was lowered dramatically only by the drought of the 1930's.

We will be starting the process by lifting and berming manholes that are at risk of flooding. This may cause some inconvenience but I'm sure everyone will prefer this to the alternative. This whole process will try everyone's patience so we ask that we all be as understanding as possible.

One of our employees is off on Workers Compensation and as a result Shaun Wheten has been hired on a temporary basis to help finish off the fall work.