

## **June 16 Project Meeting Q & A**

### **1. Clarification on costs for those who subscribe, and those who don't subscribe.**

Subscribers: Subscribers will have two payment options for the service.

- Option A: \$3000 up front paid in full by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, AND \$30/month for 10 years (to be billed quarterly with utility bills)
- Option B: \$60/month for 10 years (to be billed quarterly with utility bills)

Non-subscribers: Property owners who choose to not subscribe to the service will be billed \$30/month for 10 years (to be billed quarterly with utility bills).

### **2. What are the electricity components required by homeowners?**

The property owner is responsible to hire their own electrician to do any upgrades required to the electrical inside their home. The specifications of the pump should be shared with your electrician, and they will be able to guide you on what is required in terms of electrical upgrades.

The pump will require a dedicated 220-volt circuit, and the pump manufacturer recommends a 25amp breaker to be installed. The power supply wire will need to be run from your breaker to the controller then to a junction box on the exterior of your septic tank.

### **3. When can the electricity components be installed?**

Once you have an electrician you may share the pump specifications with them, so they are able to provide you with the electrical upgrades required. This work can be done prior to the pump being installed.

### **4. What are the grinder pump specifications?**

Barnes Razor Grinder pump model ZOGV- 2072L, 2hp, 230V with stainless steel stand, 30 ft cord

The controller is an SJE Rhombus NEX series, model 1046437 w/ 3 floats (stop, start, high level alarm)

### **5. Can we have more information about the issues Thode has with this system?**

Fred mentioned that Thode has had a handful of pumps with issues in the recent years, as these are roughly 15 years old upgrades are eventually required. It was also noted that some of the mechanics have been updated since they were installed in Thode. Because the village is supplying the pumps, all pumps will be

the same high quality, and each system will be set up the same. Some other issues Fred has seen have been corrected on the Shields design. These include all electrical connections done outside the tank, the hard pipe connection onto tank has now been changed to a flex hose, the issue with a failed check valve has been remedied by putting a second backup in place, and we have added a shut off inside the tank that can be accessed in case of a curb failure.

**6. How do you winterize your Septic Tank?**

In Thode, sewer curb stops are turned off the same way water is turned off for those who leave in the winter. This would be all that is necessary to winterize the septic system if you have a 3-season cabin or are leaving your property for an extended period. If you are concerned that you have a shallow tank that is not below the frost line, we recommend that you further insulate the inside of the collar with rigid foam or build an insulated cover to go over the lid. There is also the option for heat tracing tape for the line running from the curb stop into the collar of your tank if your property requires it.

**7. How much lift can a pump handle?**

120 ft / 36m

Additionally the elevation change from the lowest point on Proctor to the highest point is +/- 20m

**8. What is involved with Pump Maintenance?**

Associated Engineering suggests pulling the pump out annually to give it a visual inspection and check that the floats are not tangled or have debris on them.

Visually check the electrical cables. If the junction boxes or control panel are in an area exposed to moisture, open the boxes and inspect for corrosion and condensation. If the pump has been shut off for an extended length of time (e.g.: away in the winter) open the tank, run the pump manually and confirm that the level is dropping.

**9. Who is covering the cost of any lines hit on the owner's property during installation?**

1) The contractor is responsible for locating all public utilities, typically SaskPower, SaskEnergy, SaskTel, FlexNetworks and any others who participate with Sask 1st Call. If the contractor drills into any of these utilities, they will restore.

2) To the best of their ability, Shields Operations will be responsible to identify the irrigation lines and the water mains on the road allowance. Village is responsible for the road allowance utilities.

3) If the directional drilling damages any potable water lines or the irrigation lines on property owners' property, the project contingency budget will cover the costs.

3) The property owner will be responsible for identifying any private lines or buried facilities on their property. If damaged to restore service, any surfaces above the ground concrete/retaining walls etc. will be the responsibility of the homeowner.

**10. Why is the Truck Dump closing, is there any way to keep it open?**

The system being installed requires the truck dump to be closed to properly pressurize so that it will work. We are working with the contractor to keep the truck dump open as long as possible, but when we turn the system on the truck dump will need to be decommissioned.

**11. Some residents are concerned that their discharge lines coming out of tank are above the frost line- how can you ensure that it doesn't freeze?**

This would be a nontypical installation and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Residents who have short collars or shallow tanks that do not allow the line to be placed below the frost line will have to make arrangements with the contractor to have the line insulated or installed with heat trace. Insulating the line will cause more ground disturbance. Heat trace will require additional electrical provisions to be installed to the tank area.

**12. Do residents need to get sewer back-up insurance?**

It is up to the homeowner to ensure they have adequate insurance. Currently many homeowners in Saskatchewan have sewer backup insurance as a precautionary measure, so some may already have this in place.

**13. Will this installation increase your homes assessed value?**

We have consulted SAMA and been informed that each lot would be assessed as a serviced lot with the LPSS, but difference in value would be minimal. This would also likely not come into effect until the next re-assessment year which will not be until 2029.

**14. What does it cost to replace a pump if it fails?**

The price of the pumps that we are installing are roughly \$1700. This is a bulk pricing deal so the cost may vary, but it is anticipated that replacement would be under \$2000. There is a 3-year warranty on the pumps from the time of installation.

**15. What will people be required to pay if they own a double lot?**

If you own two lots, you will be required to pay the 'non-subscriber' fee twice, once for each lot you own. If you are only hooking one septic tank onto the system, then you will only be required to pay the subscribers rate once, but if you have a separate septic system on each lot, and would like to hook both onto the system, you will be required to pay that 'subscribers' fee twice as well.

**16. What is the cable length for pumps?**

We are ordering the pump and floats with 30 ft / 9.1 m of cord.

**17. Can we see the legal agreement before hand?**

Yes, the agreement is going to be completed shortly, and sent out to everyone.

**18. What if we can't make it to one of the two dates coming up for registration?**

There are two dates for registration to subscribe to the system (July 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12pm, July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5pm-8pm) You are welcome to come on those dates if you have any questions and want to sign the contract in person. If you have no issues with the contract and would like to sign the contract sooner, you are welcome to sign it and email it into the office at any time. We do not require you to come into the office in person, we just wanted to give that option to those who prefer to sign in person.

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO LONGER A REGISTRATION DATE ON JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>.

**19. When is the registration deadline?**

The deadline for registration was originally stated as July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, but due to the delay in relaying this information we have extended it to August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. We need residents to register before this date so we can accurately plan for the construction of service connections throughout the village.

**20. What is the cost of electrical draw from the pump?**

The answer to this is based on run time of the pump. Runtime is based on how much liquid it must move (so utilization), and how many other pumps are active at that time as well. Assuming the pump ran for 1 hour a day the cost would be less than \$0.50 per day with the current SaskPower cost of \$0.14895/kWh (per kilowatt/hour)

**21. Who is responsible if my septic tank is not adequate to accommodate the new system?**

The village is not responsible for determining the feasibility of the property owner's septic tank and is not responsible for any damage that may result from installation of the system. This arrangement will be between the homeowner and the contractor.