

OPERATIONS & FACILITIES DIVISION UPDATE REPORT
JANUARY 1st to MAY 31st, 2015

Mr. Mayor, Fellow Councilors, Staff, Media and Citizens, it is a pleasure to report to you this evening on the activities of the Operations and Facilities Division. As you know, our Division is responsible for the Public Works Area, Parks and Cemeteries, the Waste System, the Fort Frances Airport, the Water System and the Wastewater System. I will highlight some of the main activities which took place from January 1st, 2015 to the end of May in each of these areas of responsibility.

Public Works

In regards to the Roadways:

The 2015 winter snow fighting season was considered a mild one compared to 2014. There were only 6 snowfall events during the first five months of 2015 compared to 11 snowfall events in 2014. As a result, the Town spent \$4,233.32 for the rental of private trucks to haul snow, this past winter compared to \$47,361.48 during the same period in 2014. A 5-man crew worked 5 days per week on midnights for a 17-week period from November 24, 2014 to March 20, 2015. A new 85 foot diameter by 37 feet high winter control sand storage structure has been approved in the 2015 capital budget where construction is under way with the completion date by Mid-September. Also the Town recently signed an agreement with The Rainy River District Trapper's Council to address nuisance beavers within the built-up area of the community.

In regards to Fleet Management

The new tandem snow plow truck went into service on January 29, 2015, which replaced an 18-year old single axle plow truck. Also this budget year Council has approved the

purchase of a new sweeper to replace the 2001 Elgin Sweeper. Another sidewalk machine will be added to the fleet to improve the removal of snow from the sidewalks.

In regards to the water system:

From January 1st to the end of May, the Town manufactured 588,640 cubic meters of treated water, which is a 26.1 % reduction, compared to the same period last year.

Remember in 2014 there was a lot of bleeding taking place within the water distribution system to ensure water service lines did not freeze as the extreme cold temperatures drove the frost down deeper than normal. A new standby generator is on schedule to be fully operational sometime in July where McLough Electrical Ltd. out of Dryden Ontario has most of the on-site electrical work complete and is just waiting for the generator to arrive. Bay City Contracting out of Thunder Bay was awarded the Road Reconstruction of King's Hwy. 11-71 from York Avenue to Wright Avenue and has been on-site since May 19, where the 1919 water mains and sanitary sewer lines are being replaced. Also Bay City will be reconstructing a block of Nelson Street between Butler Avenue and the Woodyard where the water mains, sanitary sewer mains and service lines will be replaced. The 2015 portion of this project is scheduled to be completed by September 18, 2015 where the King's Hwy. 11-71 reconstruction project is the main focus at this time as the detour route is an inconvenience to the community as the USA Border traffic has substantially increased since the fall of 2008 global recession event.

In regards to the wastewater system:

Over the last 5 months the Town has treated and discharged 887,198 cu. meters of wastewater, which is a decrease of 27.9% compared to the same period last year.

Presently Associated Engineering has been retained to design the removal and

replacement of the dewatering equipment in the head works building at the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) facility where the project is on schedule to have the new dewatering equipment fully operational around November 1st, 2015. In the future, the biosolids from the STP will go directly to the landfill site to be used as cover material. When comparing the treated water discharged from the Sewage Treatment Plant to the manufactured water from the Water Treatment Plant, there is difference a of 298,558 cu. meters of groundwater and/or surface water entry into the sanitary sewer system commonly referred to as “inflow and infiltration (I/I) loading during this period. In order to reduce this volume, please inspect your sump pump system used for your basement foundation weeping tile system to ensure it is not discharging directly into the sanitary sewer system. Your sump pump water (groundwater) should be discharged onto your property then travel along the ground onto the roadway and eventually discharge into the storm sewer system and not into the sanitary sewer system. This groundwater doesn’t have to be treated at the Sewage Treatment Plant. Please do your part by alleviating any groundwater or surface water discharging into the sanitary sewer system.

In regards to the Waste Management System:

Household Hazardous Waste Day has been scheduled on Saturday September 19, 2015 where the Town has tendered together with Kenora & Dryden to retain a common MHSW service provider, in order to obtain better pricing. Upgrades at the recycling drop off depot/ transfer station property on 6th street are well under way where two stationary compactor units will be installed in the near future. The new equipment will reduce the amount of manpower resources required to empty the 4- 6 cubic yard bins and load the

walking floor trailers. Also hopefully eliminating the over flow of recyclables on Monday mornings. The general public will continue to have access to drop off their recyclables at the depot 24 hours/7 days a week – 365 days per year.

In regards to the Parks and Cemeteries:

The annual flowers throughout the Town have been planted as of June 25th. The repairs to the Point Park retaining wall which was damaged by the June 2014 flood event should be completed prior to July 1st, 2015. Twenty walkway light poles are being replaced along the waterfront walkway. The new poles are made of aluminum instead of steel thus will not rust or corrode. Also these light poles are coated with a thermoplastic coating to provide resistance to dog urine. In regards to fleet replacement in the Parks area, the Town will purchase a new ½ ton truck to replace a 22-year old truck.

In regards to the Fort Frances Airport:

The amount of air traffic is up at the Fort Frances Airport compared to last year, where 43 additional aircrafts landed as of the end of May (984 in 2015 versus 941 in 2014). Overall revenue is also up by \$20,824 compared to the same period last year. Recently surveillance cameras have been installed on the terminal building to assist in obtaining revenue during periods when the airport facility is un-attended. The Town obtained a 100% grant from Transport Canada from the ACAP funding program to replace the 1994 front-end loader and snow blower attachment. The new loader and snowblower attachment will be in place prior to when the snow flies.

Summary

The members of the Operations & Facilities Executive Committee would like your cooperation to improve the quality of life for all citizens within the community by ensuring that the trees and hedges on your property which are parallel to the Town's sidewalks are trimmed back to ensure all impediments are no closer than six (6) inches (150 mm) from the back edge of the sidewalk. This will ensure all citizens can walk safely and comfortably on the Town's sidewalks. In closing, on behalf of Council, I wish you and your family a safe and happy summer holiday and also would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation in making Fort Frances a better place to live.

F/n: 2015June semiannual report