

**OPERATIONS & FACILITIES DIVISION UPDATE REPORT**  
**JANUARY 1st to MAY 31st, 2016**

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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 to the end of May in each of these areas of responsibility.

***Public Works***

***In regards to the Roadways:***

The 2016 winter snow fighting season was similar to 2015. There were 6 snowfall events during the first five months of 2016 same as in 2015. As a result, the Town spent only \$1,242.00 for the rental of private trucks to haul snow, this past winter compared to \$4,233.32 during the same period in 2015. A 5-man crew worked 5 days per week on midnights for a 14-week period from December 7, 2015 to March 11, 2016. The new 85 foot diameter sand storage structure has been a welcomed operation improvement this winter control season as the speed in which winter control sand and salt is loaded into the Sand Truck has become less time consuming. As a result the winter control materials is applied to the roadways in quicker fashion and will continue for years to come.

***In regards to Fleet Management***

On Monday February 1st, 2016, the new trackless sidewalk machine went into service. The Town now has two sidewalk machines which has improved the speed in which the snow is cleared from the sidewalks. Also a new sweeper went into service this spring

and was used to sweep up the winter control sand. The speed in which the winter control sand is swept up has become more cost effectively with fewer equipment breakdowns. However the smaller sand particles are not swept up as efficient with the new mechanical broom compared to the old vacuum sweeper.

**In regards to the water system:**

From January 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of May, the Town manufactured 571,740 cubic meters of treated water, which is a 2.8% reduction, compared to the same period last year. Bay City Contracting out of Thunder Bay was awarded the total Road Reconstruction of Phair Avenue from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to 5<sup>th</sup> Street and has been on-site since May 9 where this project is scheduled to be completed by September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. Approximately 390 meters of old ductile steel watermain is being replaced with new C-900 PVC watermain. Also Bay City completed the reconstruction of the 800 block of Nelson Street between Butler Avenue and the Woodyard where the asphalt was placed on Friday, June 10, 2016.

**In regards to the wastewater system:**

Over the last 5 months the Town has treated and discharged 1,029,316 cu. meters of wastewater, which is an increase of 16 % compared to the same period last year. Kingdom contracting has been retained and has been onsite since May 30, 2016 to remove and replace 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 by approximately November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. In the future, the biosolid sludge 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 a difference of 457,576 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 along the roadway 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 for Saturday September 17, 2016 where the Town has tendered together with Dryden to retain a common MHSW service provider, in order to obtain better pricing. The May “Fight for Blight” event was a huge success where residential property owners collected and delivered approximately 2.66 months worth of waste to the landfill site in a 7 day period. As a result, there is a noticeable change in the appearance and upkeep of the residential properties in the community this spring. The general public is encouraged to drop off their recyclables at the depot located on 6<sup>th</sup> Street which is accessible on a 24 hours/7 days a week – 365 days per year basis. The new general public compactor unit has eliminated manpower and equipment resources to provide this service to the public in the past where these resources

have been allocated to other meaningful maintenance tasks such as patching potholes or grading laneways.

***In regards to the Parks and Cemeteries:***

The annual flowers throughout the Town have been planted as of June 29. In regards to fleet replacement in the Parks area, the Town will be purchasing a new 3/4 ton snow plow truck to replace the 19 year old snow plow system.

***In regards to the Fort Frances Airport:***

The amount of air traffic is down at the Fort Frances Airport compared to last year, where 92 fewer aircrafts have landed as of the end of May (892 in 2016 versus 984 in 2015).

Overall revenue is down by \$19,576.41 compared to the same period last year. A new groundwater well was drilled on the airport property and the well pumping system has been ordered. The groundwater well system should be fully operational sometime in July or August.

***Summary***

The members of the Operations & Facilities Executive Committee would like your cooperation to ensure 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 season and also would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation in making Fort Frances a better place to live.