

Report to Council

Date: 6/23/2025
From: Kirsten Rahm, Manager of Finance - Treasurer
Re: 2nd Quarter Financial Report

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Village of Merrickville-Wolford receive the 2025 2nd Quarter report for information purposes.

BACKGROUND

On January 27th 2025, Council adopted the 2025 budget for the Village of Merrickville-Wolford.

In order to keep Council fully apprised of the financial state of the Corporation, a financial budget variance report outlining departmental progress is provided to Council, for the period covering January 1 – June 15th, 2025.

ANALYSIS

Schedule “A” to this report provides the operating expenses and revenues to June 15, 2025 for general operations and Schedule “B” for water and wastewater services. The following are highlights from the review of revenue and operating accounts.

General Operations:

Operating Revenue Highlights:

- Taxation revenue is at 0% because the revenue is not captured in the general ledger account until the final bills go out in July
- Revenue for dog tags is almost double the budgeted amount. Our Front-Line office assistant sent out letters to all residents who had purchased a dog tag in the past, but hadn't yet purchased one this year, reminding them they needed a to purchase a dog tag every year
- Parking fines revenue has increased from prior years due to the enforcement of parking rules
- The Fire Department was successful in securing a provincial grant for cancer prevention initiatives for firefighters
- Much of the planning revenue is captured at year end through journal entries

Operating Expenses:

Corporate Services:

- Administration is at 69.1% because many of the annual expenses have already been paid, such as computer and software service contracts, memberships, and insurance
- Additionally, the Repairs & Maintenance line item is overbudget due to a roof leak in the vault
- Grants and Donations are at 81% because the funds have been allocated for the year; External Transfers is at 100%, because the Rideau Valley Conservation levy has been paid
- The total corporate services expense is at 53.8%, which is within reason

Emergency & Protective Services:

- Emergency & Protective Services overall expenses are at 40.2%, which is within reason
- Fire Department administration costs are at 68.3%, partly because the insurance has been paid for the year, and because the Repairs to Building line item is overbudget due to the need to replace the heaters in the training room/lunchroom
- Many of the vehicle line items are over budget, due to increasing repair costs as many of the vehicles continue to age
- The compensation line item for By-Law is at 0%, because the allocation of staff hours is a journal entry that is done at year-end

Public Works and Landfill:

- The administration line item for public works is at 92.1%. This is largely due to memberships, conferences and insurance having been paid for the year; Additionally, Hydro costs were higher this winter because of the colder winter we had
- Many of the line items for vehicles are overbudget, because much of the fleet is aging and the repair costs are increasing each year. Staff continue to monitor the situation. We have an equipment/vehicle repair contingency in the budget, which will help to absorb the overages.
- Landfill compensation expenses are at 19.5%, because the allocation of full-time public works staff time is done at year-end
- The Landfill Site is at 141.7%, because of the addition of the Share Shack at the landfill
- Overall expenses for Landfill are at 22.3%, largely because the Landfill Closure line item is expensed at year-end

Planning:

- Planning expenses is at 21.3%. The allocation for staff time is done at year-end

Recreation and Cultural Services:

- Recreation and Cultural Services is at 43.8%
- Facilities are at 61.8%, because the maintenance costs for both Easton's Corners Hall and the Merrickville Community centre are over budget, due to increased maintenance and repairs costs to the aging buildings
- Cultural Services is at 72.1%, largely due to some of the expenses having been paid for the year, such as Flowers/Baskets and the Highway 401 directional signs

Water and Wastewater Revenues and Expenses:

- Operating revenues are on target at 32%, with 4 out of 6 billing periods remaining.
- Operating expenses are at 33%. Expenses are higher in the second half of the year, due to the timing of loan payments and year end journal entries.

BUDGET/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Revenues and expenses are outlined in the approved 2025 budget.

CONCLUSION

This report is for information purposes. Currently, there are no budget concerns.

ATTACHMENTS

Schedule "A" – General Operating Revenues and Expenses

Schedule "B" – Water and Wastewater Revenues and Expenses

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Kirsten Rahm, Manager of Finance/Treasurer

Darlene Plumley, CAO