



Staff Report

Finance and IT Services

Report To: Committee of The Whole
Meeting Date: January 30, 2017
Report Number: FAF.17.11
Subject: Windstorm Cleanup
Prepared by: Sam Dinsmore, Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Accounting and Budgets

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report FAF.17.11, entitled “Windstorm Cleanup” for information purposes.

B. Overview

On October 17, 2016 the Town was hit with a severe windstorm which resulted in downed trees and hydro lines as well as property damage on Town owned lands. This report outlines the costs that were incurred by the Town, as well as the staff time that went into the cleanup.

C. Background

Town staff tracked the expenses and staff time that it took to clean up after the windstorm. Those costs and hours are outlined below.

Department	Expenses	Staff Hours
Roads	\$5,201.97	740 hours
Parks and Trails	11,212.93	150 hours
Wastewater	11,295.69	0 Hours
Total	\$27,710.59	890 Hours

Significant staff hours were spent on the clean-up efforts, which means that those departments involved were not able to spend as much time on normal year-end procedures, such as preparing equipment and lands for the winter months. The effects of this storm will be felt into 2017, as more cleanup is required and insurance claims will need to be resolved.

Two trees from Town lands fell onto private property during this storm, and the costs are included in the chart above. The property owners have been reimbursed for the removal of the downed trees.

D. The Blue Mountains’ Strategic Plan

Goal #4: Promote a Culture of Organizational and Operational Excellence
Objective #4: To Be a Financially Responsible Organization

E. Environmental Impacts

The trees that fell in the Parks and Trails areas will be replaced in the spring of 2017.

F. Financial Impact

At this time staff are funding these costs from the respective 2016 operating budgets. However, staff are still completing the 2016 year-end costs, and the costs of the windstorm cleanup may become burdensome on the year-end results. If this is the case, additional funding sources may be required. If additional funding sources are required staff will bring this back to Council for approval.

Staff researched whether this event and the costs associated with it would fit the criteria for the Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (ODRAP); unfortunately these costs didn't meet the minimum required to apply. In order for the Town to apply to the ODRAP the costs must be greater than 3% of the Town's Own Purpose Taxation. For 2016 the taxation levy was \$14,105,311 and 3% is \$423,160.

G. In consultation with

Brian Kane, Roads Foreman
Terry Green, Manager of Parks and Trails
Maurice Dempster, Wastewater Supervisor
Serena Wilgress, Manager of Purchasing & Risk Management

H. Attached

1. None

Respectfully Submitted,

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Ruth Prince
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