

STAFF REPORT: ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

REPORT TO: Infrastructure and Recreation Committee
MEETING DATE: January 17, 2012
REPORT NO.: EPW.12.002
SUBJECT: Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plans
PREPARED BY: Adam McMullin, Environmental Initiatives Coordinator

A. Recommendation

THAT Council receive Report EPW.12.002 entitled “Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plans” for their information.

B. Background

In 2009 the Province of Ontario enacted The Green Energy Act with the intention to expand renewable energy, encourage energy conservation and create green jobs. Under the Act Ontario Regulation 397/11 includes a directive to the broader public sector (Municipalities, Universities, Schools and Hospitals) to complete annual energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions audits and prepare energy conservation and demand management plans.

Reporting Requirements:**1) Energy Consumption and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Summary**

Municipalities must submit a summary of annual energy consumption and corresponding greenhouse gas emissions for all facilities including administrative buildings, libraries, fire stations, police stations and water and wastewater infrastructure.

All types of energy (electricity, natural gas, fuel oils) must be reported excluding fleet fuel consumption. Operational information such as floor space, operational hours, facility type and so forth is included in the reporting.

The summary must be submitted to the Ministry of Energy and published annually, commencing on or before **July 1, 2013**.

2) Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan

The regulation stipulates that Municipalities must develop a 5 year plan that requires the Town to:

- Establish corporate goals and objectives for conserving energy consumption and managing energy demand;
- Identify conservation and demand management measures and associated costs and savings estimates; and,
- Identify any renewable energy infrastructure installed and quantity of energy produced.

The plan must be approved by the senior level of management. Every five years a progress report must be submitted that includes the following:

- A description of current and proposed measures for conserving and otherwise reducing energy consumption and managing its demand for energy;
- A revised forecast of the expected results of the current and proposed measures;
- A report of the actual results achieved; and,
- A description of any proposed changes to be made to assist the Town in reaching any targets it has established or forecasts it has made.

The plan must be submitted on or before **July 1, 2014**. The progress report is due every five years thereafter.

Implications:

The Town is a member of the Partners for Climate Protection initiative, a network of Canadian Municipalities that have committed to reducing greenhouse gases and acting on climate change. As part of this program the Town completed a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and forecast in 2007. The information compiled for the inventory can serve as a basis for the required annual summary reporting. Additionally, as part of the PCP initiative financial Staff have been actively compiling consumption data (since 2009) that will also save time when compiling the annual report.

As an initiative to support The Blue Mountains Sustainable Path, Staff are currently developing a corporate greenhouse gas reduction plan that includes an energy management, monitoring and reporting component that when implemented will fulfill the requirements of Ontario Regulation 397/11. The plan will recommend that the annual reporting be completed internally by Staff. Staff plan to submit the corporate plan for Council's approval by mid 2012.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Fulfilling the requirements outlined in Ontario Regulation 397/11 will achieve the Town's Strategic Goal #3 "Develop a municipal energy management plan".

D. Environmental Impacts

Monitoring and reporting on corporate energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions will provide a baseline to assess the effectiveness of implementing conservation and efficiency initiatives. These initiatives will provide a positive environmental benefit by reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

E. Financial Impact

The annual reporting will be completed by Staff, lead by the Solid Waste and Environmental Initiatives Division and will not require additional consulting support or external costs. It is estimated that the annual reporting will require between 80 – 100 hours of Staff time.

The energy conservation and demand management plan will include proposed energy efficiency and conservation initiatives, equipment and facility retrofits and corporate programs. These will require funding which will be outlined and submitted to Council on a project by project basis through the Town's annual budgeting process.

F. Consultation With

None.

G. Attached

None.

Respectfully submitted,

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