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For Information Only

Winter Control Operations Update - November 2020

Resolution

For Information Only

Relationship to the Strategic Plan / Health Impact Assessment

This report refers to operational matters.

Report Summary

This report provides an overview of winter maintenance activities for the 2020-2021 winter control season up to and including the month of November 2020. The report provides general information and financial results for this period on six major winter service categories namely: Roadway Snow Plowing/Sanding/Salting, Snow Removal, Sidewalk Winter Maintenance, Roadway Snow Plowing – Graders/Loaders/4x4's, Winter Ditching/Spring Clean Up, and Miscellaneous Winter Maintenance.

Financial Implications

This report provides the estimated financial results of the 2020 winter roads operations for the City's fiscal year between January and November 2020. As depicted in Table 2 below, the estimated result for 2020 is a surplus of approximately \$117,000. The actual year end result may differ from these estimates as certain estimates were necessary to account for outstanding invoices. The actual surplus/deficit will be communicated as part of the 2020 Operating Budget Variance Report that will be presented in Q2 2021. The winter control surplus/deficit will form part of the year-end position.

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Winter Control Update - November 2020

Background and Summary

This report is intended to provide a summary of winter maintenance activities for the month of November 2020, including financial variances. It is important to note that due to normal lags in receipt of costs related to these activities, final costs for this period may vary from the information reported at this time.

The City of Greater Sudbury's winter maintenance service levels are defined in Council approved winter control service policies as well as guidelines within the Minimum Maintenance Standards (MMS), O.Reg. 239-02.

During the month of November, there were no winter events that required the full deployment of City crews and/or Contractors. Temperatures were generally favorable for the entire month.

The total snow accumulation for November was less than average, resulting in a \$544,000 under expenditure. The overall expenditures for the fiscal year 2020 are now slightly lower than projected for the first eleven months of 2020, estimated at approximately \$117,000 under budget.

Weather Statistics

As shown on table 1, from January to end of November there has been six major snow events and one freezing rain event that have required full deployment of all available City and Contractor snow plowing equipment. Furthermore, table 1 highlights the statistical information for the 2020 winter season from Environment Canada including the 10-year average (2011-2020) for snowfall. The total snow accumulation for the 2020 calendar year to date is 7.5 feet or 2.28 meters. The 10-year average for the same period is 8.4 feet or 2.56 meters. This represents an 11% decrease.

Table 1 – Weather Statistics (January through November 2020)

Month	Snow Accumulation (cm)	10 Year Average (cm) (2011-2020)	Percentage Increase/(Decrease) Compared to 10 Year Average (%)	Snow Events	Rain/Freezing Rain Event
Jan	70.8	79.9	-11.4%	2	1
Feb	78.2	61.3	27.5%	2	0
Mar	30.8	39.1	-21.1%	1	0
Apr	7.9	27.3	-71.1%	0	0
May	16.4	2.8	477.5%	1	0
Jun-Sep	-	-		-	-
Oct	8.0	6.4	25.8%	-	-
Nov	15.6	39.0	-60.0%	-	-
Dec					
Totals	227.7	255.8	-11.0%	6	1

Note: All weather data taken from Environment Canada website for weather station Sudbury A.

Winter Control Service Categories

1) Roadway Snow Plowing/Sanding/Salting

Includes work activities such as plowing, sanding, salting, anti-icing roads and winter stockpile management.

Status Update

For the November 2020 reporting period there was minimal snow that resulted in a decrease in efforts required for plowing/sanding/salting roadways.

Challenges

No significant challenges in this reporting period.

2) Snow Removal

Includes work activities such as bus stop clearing, snow removal with loaders, snow dump operation and snow bank removal in the downtown centres.

Status Update

There was no snow removal completed in the month of November.

Challenges

No significant challenges in this reporting period.

3) Winter Sidewalk Maintenance

Includes work activities such as sidewalk plowing and sanding.

Status Update

For the November 2020 reporting period there was minimal snow that has resulted in minimal winter sidewalk maintenance.

Challenges

No significant challenges in this reporting period.

4) Roadway Snow Plowing with Graders/Loaders/4x4s

Includes work activities such as snow plowing with graders, 4x4s and loaders, municipal parking lot maintenance and snow fence maintenance.

Status Update

There was no snow plowing with graders/loaders/4x4's in the month of November.

Challenges

No significant challenges in this reporting period.

5) Winter Ditching/Spring Clean Up

Includes work activities such as winter ditch maintenance and spring clean up with sweepers/flushers on roads and sidewalks.

Status Update

There has been no winter ditching/spring clean up during this reporting period.

Challenges

No significant challenges in this reporting period.

6) Miscellaneous Winter Maintenance

Includes work activities such as property restoration (plow damage), pothole patching, winter road patrol, employee standby, equipment standby, health and safety training (snow school), fringe benefits and tool repairs.

Status Update

Pothole patching and Contractor standby are the main activities that have been utilized under this category during this reporting period. In the summer of 2020 the City

completed a large patching program which is anticipated to mitigate pothole patching. Over the coming months, staff will continue to monitor this program closely to ensure the large patching program addresses the areas of greatest concern.

Challenges

No significant challenges in this reporting period.

Financials

This report provides the estimated financial results of the 2020 winter roads operations for the City's fiscal year between January and November 2020. As depicted in Table 2 below, the estimated result for 2020 is a surplus of approximately \$117,000. The actual year end result may differ from these estimates as certain estimates were necessary to account for outstanding invoices. The actual surplus/deficit will be communicated as part of the 2020 Operating Budget Variance Report that will be presented in Q2 2021. The winter control surplus/deficit will form part of the year-end position.

Table 2 – Financial Results

2020 Winter Summary As of November 30, 2020					
	Annual Budget	2020 YTD			
		Budget	Actual	Variance	% Change YTD
Snow Plowing/Sanding/Salting	7,823,358	6,029,404	4,730,668	1,298,736	78%
Snow Removal	871,321	691,596	1,208,382	(516,786)	175%
Winter Sidewalk Maintenance	1,124,424	843,318	758,767	84,551	90%
Snow Plowing - Graders/Loaders/4x4s	933,969	699,861	951,926	(252,065)	136%
Winter Ditching/Spring Clean Up	2,279,958	2,245,948	2,795,110	(549,162)	124%
Miscellaneous Winter Maintenance	7,350,517	6,241,993	6,189,887	52,106	99%
Totals	20,383,548	16,752,120	16,634,740	117,380	99%

Table 3 – Miscellaneous Winter Maintenance Budget Breakdown

2020 Miscellaneous Winter Maintenance	
Expense Type	Annual Budget (millions \$)
Employee Benefits	1.57
Asphalt Patching	1.36
Internal Recoveries (HR, Finance, IT)	0.73
Standby (Contractor Services)	0.73
Health & Safety	0.17
Other (Road Patrol, Emergency Response, Tool Repair, Property Restoration, etc.)	0.58
Administration & Supervision	2.21
Total	\$ 7.35

Table 4 – 2020/2021 Winter Season Financial Summary

2020/2021 Winter Season Summary For the Month of November 2020			
	Season Budget	Season Actual	Variance
Snow Plowing/Sanding/Salting	871,512	449,890	421,622
Snow Removal	-	27,093	(27,093)
Winter Sidewalk Maintenance	112,442	61,210	51,232
Snow Plowing - Graders/Loaders/4x4s	28,018	20,162	7,856
Winter Ditching/Spring Clean Up	-	55,324	(55,324)
Miscellaneous Winter Maintenance	1,124,962	979,361	145,601
Totals	2,136,934	1,593,040	543,894