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July 31, 2014

CORPORATE SERVICES INFORMATION REPORT - FINANCIAL SERVICES - 2014-32

TO:

Mayor Tony Van Bynen and Members of Council

SUBJECT:

2014 Second Quarter Report - Tax Supported Operating Budget

ORIGIN:

Financial Analyst

In accordance with the Procedure Bylaw, any member of Council may request an Information Report to be placed on an upcoming Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion.

COMMENTS

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a high level summary of the tax supported operating accounts for the first six months ending June 30, 2014. Timing differences create a significant part of the variances, which will be expected to compare much closer to the budgeted figures by the end of the year.

Tax Supported Operating Budget

Overall revenues to the end of June totaled \$54,391,674, while total expenditures totaled \$33,850,185 for the same period, creating a \$20,541,489 surplus, which results in a favorable variance of \$1,338,607 compared to budget. The final residential property taxes were billed by the end of June, accounting for the large surplus position at this time. There is no indication at this point that the budgeted amounts will not be met at year end.

CAO's Office

There have been savings in this area, mostly from staff vacancies (wage gapping), which will be applied to temporary hiring in other areas.

Corporate Services

Insurance expense shows a favorable budget variance of \$332,000; however this variance arises from timing and will be accounted for once the annual invoice for insurance premiums is received.

Central York Fire Services

Salaries and benefits for Central York Fire Services were \$481,163 under budget at the end of the second quarter, as wages and benefits for firefighters are still being paid out at the 2012 rate, pending settlement of the 2013 and 2014 rate. Accruals for wage and benefit costs will be made at the end of the year based on budgeted amounts. As per past practice, any potential deficit or surplus would be funded from or transferred to the CYFS reserve fund.

Community Services

Timing differences and staff gapping account for the expense and revenue variances in this commission.

Please refer to the Appendix for additional comments from Community Services.

Infrastructure & Development Services

Winter control has incurred higher than budgeted expenses due to an increased number of snow events over the past winter. Should it exceed its budget at the end of the year, a draw will be made on the Winter Control Reserve. We are anticipating government funding for ice storm costs which should offset our draw on reserves.

Please refer to the Appendix for comments from Infrastructure & Development Services.

General Government

Assessment disputes and subsequent decisions from the Assessment Review Board resulted in some large one-time tax adjustments. In addition, vacancy rebates continue to exceed our projections. The budget impact has been partially mitigated by temporary savings in other areas. It is possible that the end of the year variance could be as much as \$300,000. Should this be the case and there are no offsetting savings or additional revenues in other areas, then a recommendation will be made to draw upon the Rate Stabilization Reserve. This will be a driver for the 2015 budget.

Taxation

Tax revenues reflect the billing for both interim and final residential property taxes, as well as interim commercial property taxes at the end of June. Final commercial property taxes and supplementary taxes will be billed in the second part of the year; tax revenues are expected to continue to be in line with the budgeted amounts.

BUDGET IMPACT

There are no indications at this time that budgeted numbers cannot be attained, however, it is too early to project a surplus. Where potential negative budget variances have been identified, they are of a temporary nature and there are appropriate reserves to offset them.

BUSINESS PLAN AND STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGES

This report links to Newmarket's key strategic directions in being Well Managed through fiscal responsibility.

CONTACT

For more information on this report, contact: Steffi Ertle at 905-953-5300, ext. 2103 or via e-mail at sertle@newmarket.ca

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Commissioner, Corporate Services

SE/nh

Attachments

- 1) Appendix-Comments from Managers, Directors or Commissioners (1 pg.)
- 2) 2014 Second Quarter Results-Operating Results (1 pg.)

APPENDIX

(Corporate Services Report – Financial Services – 2014-32)

COMMENTS FROM MANAGERS, DIRECTORS OR COMMISSIONERS:

COMMUNITY SERVICES

A decision to capture the cost for After Hours services in Customer Service rather than Information Technology resulted in unbudgeted expense of \$5,688 to the end of June. It is expected that this figure will amount to an estimated \$10,000 by the end of the year, and this cost will be added to the Customer Service budget in 2015.

Bonnie Munslow Manager of Customer Service

The favorable variance in expenses to date are the result of lower salaries and wages mainly due to vacant positions in the Program area, lower program and events costs as well as lower than anticipated community grants. These have been partially offset by higher EDO consulting costs related to the application to the Province for an education facility as well as transfers to reserves related to a budgeted but as of yet unfilled EDO position.

Revenues are in line with budget and at this point we are unaware of any significant factors that would impact our ability to meet the budget.

Lisa Ellis Business Performance Coordinator

DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION

The major variances are the result of:

- 1) Vacant positions in Engineering, Building & Public Works
- 2) Lower Engineering allocations to capital projects (anticipated to be resolved for year-end)
- 3) Lower expenses related to annual maintenance programs result also result in lower revenue as a result of lower transfers from ARF (timing differences)

At this point we are not aware of any significant factors that would impact our ability to meet the budget.

Lisa Ellis Business Performance Coordinator

Town of Newmarket 2014 Second Quarter OPERATING RESULTS

	Year-to-Date (June 30, 2014)			Full Year
Departments	ACTUAL BUDGET		VARIANCE	Budget
	8	\$	\$	\$
Members of Council Revenues	_	10,001	(10,001)	20,000
Expenditures	574,491	625,629	51,138	1,256,274
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Net surplus/(deficit)	(574,491)	(615,628)	41,137	(1,236,274
C.A.O Office Revenues	16,970	49,503	(32.533)	99,000
	· ·		(32,533)	
Expenditures	1,475,888	1,741,385	265,497	2,666,283
Net surplus/(deficit)	(1,458,918)	(1,691,882)	232,964	(2,567,28
Corporate Services Revenues	879,059	880,206	(1,147)	1,760,417
Expenditures	4,994,782	5,194,140	199,358	9,955,260
			198,211	NO. 8 1 1 2 3 2 2 2 3 4 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Net surplus/(deficit)	(4,115,723)	(4,313,934)	198,211	(8,194,84)
Central York Fire Services Revenues	25.726	13,500	20.026	278,000
	35,726		22,226	
Expenditures	4,587,459	5,089,773	502,314	12,600,552
Net surplus/(deficit)	(4,551,734)	(5,076,273)	524,539	(12,322,55
Community Services	2040000	0.000.740	(04.747)	0.440.00
Revenues	2,646,999	2,668,746	(21,747)	6,443,830
Expenditures	3,797,145	4,017,441	220,296	8,750,02
Net surplus/(deficit)	(1,150,146)	(1,348,695)	198,549	{2,306,19
Development & Infra. Services				
Revenues	1,926,190	3,314,667	(1,388,477)	6,958,95
Expenditures	14,302,842	16,102,250	1,799,408	32,247,09
Net surplus/(deficit)	(12,376,653)	(12,787,583)	410,931	(25,288,14
Library Services				
Revenues	118,909	127,768	(8,859)	327,63
Expenditures	1,568,035	1,588,212	20,177	3,176,445
Net surplus/(deficit)	(1,449,126)	(1,460,444)	11,318	(2,848,81
General Government				
Revenues	1,383,859	1,450,304	(66,445)	4,236,109
Expenditures	1,495,980	1,305,637	(190,343)	2,510,279
Net surplus/(deficit)	(112,121)	144,667	(256,788)	1,725,830
Debt Servicing				
Revenues	1,435,402	1,460,555	(25,153)	3,421,113
Expenditures	2,138,229	2,120,574	(17,655)	4,241,136
Net surplus/(deficit)	(702,827)	(660,019)	(42,808)	(820,023
Property Taxes				
Revenues	45,948,560	45,927,920	20,640	51,688,784
Expenditures	-	-		
Net surplus/(deficit)	45,948,560	45,927,920	20,640	51,688,784
Allocations				
Revenues	-	-	-	
Expenditures	(1,084,668)	(1,084,753)	(85)	(2,169,512
Net surplus/(deficit)	1,084,668	1,084,753	(85)	2,169,512
GRAND-TOTAL				
Revenues	54,391,674	55,903,170	(1,511,496)	75,233,837
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	

33,850,185

20,541,489

Expenditures

Net surplus/(deficit)

2,850,103

1,338,607

36,700,288

19,202,882

75,233,837