



REPORT

REPORT TO: Chair and Members of the Budget Committee

REPORT FROM: Dana Stanescu – Accounting Supervisor

DATE: December 7, 2020

REPORT NO.: CORPSERV-2020-0037

RE: Ontario Regulation 284/09, 2021 Budget

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. CORPSERV-2020-0037 dated December 7, 2020 regarding Ontario Regulation 284/09, 2021 Budget be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves this report, which meets the requirements of Regulation 284/09 and outlines the 2021 Operating and Capital Budgets in a format that is compliant with the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB);

AND FURTHER THAT should any budget changes be approved by Budget Committee, the PSAB compliant 284/09 report will be amended to include those changes, to ensure consistency with the approved budget.

BACKGROUND:

In 2009, accounting standards and financial reporting requirements changed significantly, with the most notable change being the reporting requirements on Tangible Capital Assets (TCA). However, these new accounting standards do not require budgets to be prepared on the same basis.

The Town of Halton Hills, like many municipalities, continues to prepare budgets on a traditional cash basis. These budgets do not include the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) requirements of accrual accounting and accounting for non-financial assets such as Tangible Capital Assets.

Ontario Regulation 284/09 requires municipalities that have excluded expenses in their budgets to prepare a report detailing those excluded expenses and adopt the report by resolution prior to adopting a budget for the year. Allowable excluded expenses as per Ontario Regulation 284/09 can be all or a portion of the following:

- a. Amortization expenses
- b. Post-employment benefit expenses
- c. Solid waste landfill closure and post-closure expenses

The Town excludes expenses related to amortization as they are non-cash expenses. Post-employment benefit expenses are included in the budget therefore no adjustment is required. The post-closure solid waste landfill expenses are included in the waste management levy from the Region as they monitor the former landfill site, which was closed in 1973.

The Regulation requires the report to contain at a minimum:

- a. An estimate of the change in accumulated surplus (revenues less expenditures) of the municipality to the end of the year resulting from the exclusion of expenses
- b. An analysis of the estimated impact of the exclusion of expenses on future tangible capital asset funding requirements

In addition to these excluded expenses, the cash-based budgets prepared by the Town include certain types of transactions that need to be excluded for PSAB reporting purposes. These are not covered in Ontario Regulation 284/09; however, for purposes of transparency and consistency, the accumulated surplus contained in this report will be included as budget figures in the 2021 published financial statements, as approved by Council. As such, the following items that are included in the cash-based budget will be excluded from the PSAB-based budget:

- a. Debenture principal repayment expenditures net of recoveries
- b. Transfers to reserve funds
- c. Contribution from reserve funds
- d. Tangible Capital Asset costs
- e. Cash inflows from debenture issues reported as revenue in cash-based budget

COMMENTS:

Table 1 outlines the changes made to convert the balanced 2021 budget prepared under the cash basis of accounting to increase the Town's accumulated surplus in the amount of \$7,357,676.

Table 1	
<u>2021 Proposed Budget - Cash Based</u>	
Proposed 2021 Operating Budget Tax Levy	\$ 56,046,200
Proposed 2021 Operating Budget Other Revenues	\$ 25,336,119
Proposed 2021 Operating Budget Expenditures	\$ (81,382,319)
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ -
Proposed 2021 Capital Budget Funded	\$ 22,109,700
Proposed 2021 Capital Budget Expenditures	\$ (22,109,700)
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ -
Acton & Georgetown BIA Budget Revenues	\$ 416,770
Acton & Georgetown BIA Budget Expenditures	\$ (416,770)
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ -
Add Revenues Excluded from Cash Based Budget	
Donated Tangible Capital Assets	\$ 1,500,000
Equity Income on Investments	\$ 1,000,000
Exclusion Impact on Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 2,500,000
Add Expenditures Excluded from Cash Based Budget	
Amortization Expense	\$ (17,497,600)
Exclusion Impact on Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (17,497,600)
Remove Non PSAB Items from Cash Based Budget	
Debenture Principal Repayments (Net of Recoveries)	\$ 4,697,500
Transfers to Reserves	\$ 11,491,976
Contribution from Reserves (Capital Budget)	\$ (10,384,700)
Contribution from Reserves (Operating Budget)	\$ (2,476,500)
Fixed Asset/TCA Expenditures	\$ 19,027,000
Total Impact on 2021 Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 7,357,676

Amortization of \$17,497,600 listed in Table 1 above has a major impact on the 2021 accumulated surplus amount. The amortization expense reduces the surplus amount and also reduces the net book value of the Tangible Capital Assets reported on the annual audited statement of financial position.

Fixed assets purchases of \$19,027,000 documented in Table 1 are higher than amortization. This suggests that the Town's assets are being replaced at a rate slightly higher than they are declining.

Budgeted amortization amounts are based on a projection of existing assets and the associated annual amortization charge. It does not include a projection for assets not yet in service or new assets that have not, as yet, been recorded in the fixed assets sub-ledger.

Table 2 shows the proposed budget in PSAB format. This layout will be used in the preparation of the annual published financial statements and will be adjusted to incorporate any budget night changes approved by Council.

Table 2	2021 PSAB Format Budget
Revenues	
Taxation (Including Supps & PILs)	\$58,432,920
User Fees & Charges	\$10,104,486
Government Transfers	
Federal	\$2,430,700
Provincial	\$4,223,560
Other Municipalities	\$728,300
Investment Income	\$1,155,000
Development Charges	\$6,183,000
Donated Tangible Capital Assets	\$1,500,000
Donations	\$500
Promissory Note Interest from HHCEC	\$477,900
Dividend Income from HHCEC	\$1,692,000
Equity Income from HHCEC	\$1,000,000
Other	\$2,106,023
	<u>\$90,034,389</u>
Expenses	
General Government	\$13,733,800
Protection Services	\$14,257,455
Transportation Services	\$23,892,080
Environmental Services	\$2,100,000
Health Services	\$392,602
Social & Family Services	\$891,333
Recreation & Cultural Services	\$22,297,200
Planning & Development	\$5,112,243
	<u>\$82,676,713</u>
Annual Surplus/(Deficit)	<u><u>\$7,357,676</u></u>

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

This report supports Council's strategic priority to provide responsive and effective municipal government by ensuring accountability and transparency of the Town's operations and that appropriate management policies, practices and procedures are in place.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no direct financial impact with this report. The intent is to describe the conversion of the cash-based proposed budget to a Public Sector Accounting Board budget format and compliance thereof.

CONSULTATION:

Consultations were held with other municipalities on the format of this report.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

There was no public engagement required in reference to this report.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The sustainability implications of the recommendations of the report were reviewed against the requirements of the Town's Sustainability Implications Worksheet. The Worksheet is completed for substantial non-administrative reports, major projects, studies, policies and initiatives that are relevant to advancing the Town's economic, cultural, environmental and social wellbeing, and quality of life. Since the report is none of the latter, the Sustainability Implications section is not applicable.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Communicating the differences between the cash basis budget and the PSAB based budget to members of Budget Committee fulfills the requirements of Ontario Regulation 284/09.

CONCLUSION:

Differences between cash and PSAB accounting of the 2021 budget are detailed in Tables 1 and 2 of this report. This report fulfills the requirements of the Ontario Regulation 284/09. Accounting staff will monitor actual results throughout the 2021 financial year.

Reviewed and Approved by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Leighton".

Moya Jane Leighton, Town Treasurer and Director of Accounting

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Mills".

Chris Mills, Acting Chief Administrative Officer