

YEAR END REPORT 2017

Dear citizens, it is my pleasure to provide you with the year end budget provisions as at December 31st, 2017. As this is no longer an obligation according to the new Bill 122, as your mayor I feel it important to continue the trend of transparency with the rate payers. In June of 2018, I will provide you with actual figures as well as highlights relevant to the Auditor's financial report 2017. The municipality's auditors, Piché, Lacroix CPA Inc., submitted their report for the year ending December 31st, 2016. The total accumulated surplus at the end of 2016 was \$483,780.00. During the preparation of the 2017 budget the Municipality had allocated \$ 18,000.00 from the accumulated surplus in order to maintain our 2017 mill rate at .70 per \$100 of roll assessment. Our water tower debt as at December 31st, 2017 is \$896,000.00.

Contracts over \$25,000:

Maurice Morin	Sand & Gravel	2017	\$34,416.00, \$39,119.52 and \$25,464.16.
Doug Zacharias	Snow plow contract	2017	\$228,869.63

Financial update as at December 31st, 2017: Revenues: \$2,131,243.01 Expenses: \$2,064,478.72

Tax Roll: The summary of the current assessment roll indicates a total taxable amount of **\$187,494,600.00**

Salaries of elected officials: The mayor received an annual salary of **\$19,620** and Councilors received an annual salary of **\$6,540** in 2017.

TECO Grant: In 2017 \$239,395.21 of the TECQ monies were allocated toward the extension of water line on Second Street \$66,561.92, road improvement on Mayhew, Stephens, Beaudoin and King Roads \$ 157,093.85, Plan Directeur Aqueduc \$15,739.44. The balance remaining in the grant is the municipalities share, \$154,280.

Provincial Government grant awarded from Mr. André Fortin's office: \$50,000 – These funds were used for road improvements on the following roads: Mill, Kluge, Reddington, Erfle, Elsie and Leslie.

Public Works: In 2017 the Municipality purchased: 2016 Dump Trailer \$9100 and a sander for Kioti \$2800

Fire Safety: The Fire department own and operate a Thermal Imager which is a device used to detect internal heat between walls, inside junction boxes, can also spot human bodies in a smoky area among other detections. The 4 new fire fighters successfully completed section 1 of the Fire Fighter One course in 2017.

Recreation: In 2017 the RA purchased an electric hot plate and a commercial toaster worth approximately \$1700. The Association was awarded a federal grant for the Canada 150 day activities in the amount of \$2000. These funds were used toward the Canada Day celebration fireworks. They host several youth activities throughout the year such as: Easter hunt, Christmas & Halloween parties, movie nights as well as Mont Cascade trip. Keep in mind that the most of the mentioned activities are free of charge for the youth and in some cases the parents. Any surplus from the RA committee is reinvested into the community.

The Golden Age Group: In 2017 the Golden Age Group applied for a Federal grant and were awarded an amount of \$9,480. With these funds they purchased: 34 new tables, 2 kitchen fans, LED lights in the bar and kitchen areas and 2 outside high efficiency motion lights which will benefit the whole community. Other items such as plates, dart boards, euchre cards, tickets, etc. were purchased to enhance the Golden Age community.

Environment: Launching a composting program in order to prevent future government penalties will be taken into serious consideration. We encourage rate payers to continue recycling in order to improve our environment as well as reducing our waste residual cost.

Realizations for 2017:

- Continued community beautification with flowers and wreaths throughout the municipality;
- 50% subsidized grant from Canada Summer Jobs Federal Program to assist with a summer student for a period of 8 weeks to provide support to the municipal library, recreational and community activities;
- Continuing to accept gently used items in the St. Judes bins located at the Municipal office;
- General maintenance at the recreational grounds;
- Administrative improvements
- Moving forward with the 3 season road improvement project;
- Continued negotiations with logging companies travelling on municipal roads;
- Ongoing process regarding property enhancements and improvements;
- 2 hydrants installed on Second Street
- Application of liquid calcium on municipal roads – new in 2017;
- Boat wash project introduced for public awareness – Municipality awarded a grant of \$4440 and the total cost of project totaled \$5920
- We urge you to continue visiting our Web site for municipal updates - (www.otterlakequebec.ca)
- Continued collaboration with Groups & Associations

Planning & Development:

- Total cost to demolish and remove the building at 408 Tessier Street \$19,950.00. The property is currently suitable for future development. Subsequent to the public consultation which was held in May 2016, there has been no decision regarding the development of said property. Council will continue to explore alternate options which will benefit the community.
- Extension of the water line on Second Street was completed successfully in November 2017.
- The Leslie Park is continuing to operate successfully with ongoing improvements.

I would like to express how honored and proud I am to continue to represent the Municipality of Otter Lake for a mandate of 4 years. I am looking forward to working with the 4 new as well as the experienced elected officials and I am confident that we will make a dynamic team. I would also like to recognize our dedicated municipal employees for their valued contribution as they manage the daily operations in order to enable our municipality to progress and become a better place. The outstanding harmony among our truly dedicated Fire Department, R.A. Committee, Golden Age Club and our countless volunteers make this a vibrant community that we all can be extremely proud of.

My 2018 vision for our municipality is to work together as a team with transparency and open communication for the prosperity and continued accomplishments for our community!!!

Thank you,

Your Mayor,

Kim Cartier-Villeneuve

Given at Otter Lake, Quebec, this 9th day of January 2018