

2023 Mayors Report

Dear citizens,

This was the council's second complete year of our 4-year term, and it looks like the remaining two will be as busy.

Below are some of the highlights:

EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT 2022

Upon completion of its mandate, the auditor is of the opinion that "the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Municipality of Otter Lake as of December 31, 2022".

FINANCIAL REPORT 2022

Operating revenues for the year 2022 were \$3,274,999 while expenses were \$3,062,282 resulting in a current year operating surplus of \$212,717.

REMUNERATION OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

Pursuant to section 11 of the act respecting the remuneration of elected municipal officers, the annual remuneration paid to elected officers, in 2023, for all of their municipal council duties was: Mayor: \$19,620, Councillors \$6,540

2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS

Roads - A grant from the MNA André Fortin's office was used to make improvements on Fleury Road and to complete high brush cutting on several roads.

- Completed major road work on both Picanoc and Belmont roads totalling approximately \$2.2 million which was funded primarily through a grant from the provincial government and some federal funding. (PAVL & TECQ grants)
- Continued road work throughout network in 2024
- Steps are being taken by both the Ministry of Transport and the Municipal Council to ensure the road work on the section of Route 301 between Route 366 and Stephens Road is completed as promised.

Equipment - Purchased a 2012 International tandem truck.

Security – The Pontiac North Fire Department successfully recruited 6 new members in 2023. We would like to welcome Dylan, Martin, Olivier, Roger, Samantha and Brian to the department.

Environment – In September 2023, a biologist confirmed the presence of Eurasian Water Milfoil in Farm Lake and Petit Lac Cayamant. A committee of councillors and lake associations' representatives has been established to contain the spread of the milfoil in each of the two lakes and prevent it from spreading to other waterways. Work is underway on options for mitigation in these and other lakes in our municipality. More information will be provided in the spring of 2024.

-Grant of \$100K received from the Pontiac MRC FRR4 fund to install a dual Level 3 electric charging station in 2024.

Boat Wash – Enforcement of the municipal bylaw was put into action from April to October 2022, with moderate success, it will take everyone's participation to protect one of our most precious resources. The boat wash station is free for taxpayers to use. If you have not done so, contact the Municipal Office to register.

Summer Students - Hired Ashton Dubeau (labourer) and Amber Dubeau (recreation) for a period of 8 weeks. Half the cost was funded by the Canada Summer Jobs Federal grant.

Raymond Johnson Community Centre and 408 Tessier – Completed construction of the Splash pad and paving of the entrance and parking lot at the community centre with a grant from the MRC FRR4 fund and a donation from a generous anonymous benefactor. Thank you! Grant approved in the Pontiac MRC FRR2 fund to build a shelter next to the Splash pad in 2024 to give families a place to sit and enjoy the area.

Human Resources - Please join me in welcoming a new member to the team: Sylvain Dubeau (grader operator).

Council Members – The members are Mayor: Terry Lafleur, Councillors: Penny Dubeau, Darren Knox, Daniel Lamarche, Jennifer Quaille, Serge Sabourin, and Robin Zacharias.

Almost all of the extra work completed in 2023 was paid for with grant money from regional, provincial, and federal sources. Council remains committed to our Master Plan for the RJCC and 408 Tessier and sourcing more grant money to help improve our municipality. Our household waste contract is coming to an end and we anticipate an increase in the next MRC contract. To offset this increase, we are starting a compost and more efficient recycling program. Find more details in the enclosed flyer or visit the municipal website. Only together will we be able to maintain and grow our cherished municipality.

Thank you for your support

Terry Lafleur, Mayor