Minute No. 115
Report - Standing Policy Committee on Finance - December 1, 2016

Item No. 1 Financial Status Report and Forecast to October 31, 2016

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance and adopted the following:

1. That the Financial Status Report and Forecast to October 31, 2016 be received as information.

2. That if the General Revenue Fund reports a surplus at year-end, it be transferred to the General Purpose Reserve Fund.

3. That in the event the General Revenue Fund reports a deficit at year-end, the following measures be utilized, in the order specified, to sufficiently eliminate a 2016 deficit in the General Revenue Fund:

    A. Reduce the transfer required to the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund in respect of net supplementary taxes and tax roll adjustments to the budget in 2016 up to the amount required to avoid a deficit in the General Revenue Fund;

    B. The Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund forgo its 2016 interest earnings, net of investment management fees, up to the amount required to avoid a deficit in the General Revenue Fund; and

    C. The Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund transfer to the General Revenue Fund, the amount required to avoid a deficit in the General Revenue Fund.

4. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Report - Standing Policy Committee on Finance - December 1, 2016

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gillingham,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On December 7, 2016, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On December 1, 2016, the Standing Policy Committee on Finance concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service, and submitted the matter to Executive Policy Committee and Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Financial Status Report and Forecast to October 31, 2016

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Finance– Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
P. Olafson	Mike Ruta	M. Ruta	D. McNeil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Financial Status Report and Forecast to October 31, 2016 currently anticipates a projected surplus of $2.5 million.

Based on experience of the past few years it is not unusual for the projected surplus to have slight improvements in the final months of the year. The average change over the last three of five reported years between October and year-end is $6.1 million, ranging from $1.9 – 9.1 million.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1) That the Financial Status Report and Forecast to October 31, 2016 be received as information.
2) That if the General Revenue Fund reports a surplus at year-end, it be transferred to the General Purpose Reserve Fund.
3) That in the event the General Revenue Fund reports a deficit at year-end, the following measures be utilized, in the order specified, to sufficiently eliminate a 2016 deficit in the General Revenue Fund:
    a. Reduce the transfer required to the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund in respect of net supplementary taxes and tax roll adjustments to the budget in 2016 up to the amount required to avoid a deficit in the General Revenue Fund;
    b. The Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund forgo its 2016 interest earnings, net of investment management fees, up to the amount required to avoid a deficit in the General Revenue Fund; and

c. The Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund transfer to the General Revenue Fund, the amount required to avoid a deficit in the General Revenue Fund.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On December 17, 1997, City Council approved clause 1 of the report of the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues, which requires that a periodic report be approved on a quarterly basis by the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues. Since that time, the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues has been renamed Standing Policy Committee on Finance.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Public Service anticipates that the projected surplus will have slight improvements in the final two months of the year based on financial improvements typically realized from that forecasted for October 31, as well as through continued efforts to control expenses without impacting the delivery of core services. The Public Service will be monitoring the General Revenue Fund on a regular basis.

Recommendations 2 and 3 included in this report, concerning transfers amongst City of Winnipeg funds fall under Section 288(1) of The City of Winnipeg Charter, which requires approval from City Council. As well, the funding mechanism for the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund has been approved by Council.

Actual Year-end Scenario - General Revenue Fund Surplus

Annual operating General Revenue Fund surpluses automatically transfer to the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund. Should the actual year-end General Revenue Fund 2016 operations result in a surplus, the Public Service is instead recommending that the surplus be transferred to the General Purpose Reserve Fund for future use to be approved by City Council.

Actual Year-end Scenario - General Revenue Fund Deficit

Should the General Revenue Fund report a 2016 deficit, the following measures, in the order specified, would be utilized, to sufficiently eliminate that deficit:

Net supplementary taxes and tax roll adjustments to the budget

On September 28, 2011, City Council approved a report from the Executive Policy Committee to permit transfers to or from the Financial Stabilization Reserve to offset any variance in the revenue projections for net supplementary taxes and tax roll adjustments used in the General Revenue Fund budget and the actual amounts achieved.

During the year, taxes are reported in the General Revenue Fund and if applicable at year-end a transfer based on the variance between budget and actual is recorded and reported in the

Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund. After considering the foregoing measure, this recommendation would reduce any transfer from the General Revenue Fund up to the amount of the potential deficit.

Interest Revenue – Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund

The City of Winnipeg operates a centralized treasury function with a single operating bank account in the General Revenue Fund. Consequently, the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund does not have a separate bank account. Cash transactions are credited or charged to the "Due from the General Revenue Fund" in the reserve. Interest revenue is credited to the reserve, as approved by City Council in the September 28, 2011 report. After considering the foregoing measures, this recommendation increases the interest revenue in the General Revenue Fund by forgoing interest revenue, less investment management fees, in the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund up to the remaining amount of the potential deficit.

Transfer from the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund

Even after the above recommendations are implemented a deficit may still result in the General Revenue Fund thereby requiring a transfer from the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund. In the last two months of the year, for instance, there is a financial risk associated with snow accumulations and the need for snow removal and ice control.

As at January 1, 2016, the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund had an accumulated surplus of $75.6 million. As included in the 2016 budget, $5.0 million will be transferred from the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund to the General Revenue Fund.

The use of the Financial Stabilization Reserve Fund is subject to certain operating criteria including no charges to the Reserve being made unless the reserve balance exceeds 6% of the General Revenue Fund expenses. If that target is met or exceeded, funds above the 6% target may be used for major unforeseen expenditures and deficits in any given year.

HISTORY

The forecasted results at October and the year-end position before final transfers for the General Revenue Fund for the past five years were as follows:

Year	Surplus (deficit) in millions at October 31	Surplus (deficit) in millions at December 31 before Final Transfers
2015	$ N/A	$ 16.3
2014	N/A	0.7
2013	(3.7)	(1.8)
2012	8.5	15.9
2011	(0.6)	9.7

Other

The Corporate Finance Department has prepared this report showing forecasted revenues and expenses to December 31, 2016, for the General Revenue Fund, Utility Funds and Municipal Accommodations Fund. This information was obtained from departments and was based on actual data as at October 31, 2016.

Attachments included are the following:

Schedule 1 – The City of Winnipeg – General Revenue Fund – Financial Status Report and Forecast;

Schedule 2 – The City of Winnipeg – General Revenue Fund – Budget Variances;

Schedule 3 – The City of Winnipeg – General Revenue Fund – Reconciliation of September to October Forecast;

Schedule 4 - The City of Winnipeg – Summary by Fund; and

Schedule 5 – The City of Winnipeg – General Revenue Fund – Net Mill Rate by Department.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement **Date: November 22, 2016**

Project Name:

Financial Status Report and Forecast to October 31, 2016

COMMENTS:

This report is prepared for information purposes.

Kaleigh Wills
Manager of Financial Reporting and Accounting Services

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:

All City of Winnipeg Departments

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

01-3 Prosperity Direction 1 Provide Efficient and Focused Civic Administration and Governance. This report supports demonstration of accountability by the City's public service through reporting.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Corporate Finance

Division: Corporate Controller's

Prepared by: Kaleigh Wills

Date: November 22, 2016

File No.

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG - GENERAL REVENUE FUND
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT AND FORECAST

Schedule 1

Actual for the ten month period ended October 31, 2016
forecasted for the year ending December 31, 2016
(in thousands of dollars)
(unaudited)

	Adopted Budget	Forecast	Variance From Budget	Year to Date Actual
REVENUES				
Taxation	$ 658,686	$ 655,472	$ (3,214)	$ 545,837
Government transfers	123,619	123,488	(131)	85,262
Sale of goods and services	63,170	61,115	(2,055)	50,364
Transfer from other funds	55,203	56,492	1,289	35,236
Regulation fees	50,758	55,478	4,720	45,924
Interest	33,102	35,401	2,299	31,611
Payments-in-lieu of taxes	35,255	35,255	-	29,520
Other	35,337	34,943	(394)	1,257
Total Revenues	1,055,130	1,057,644	2,514	825,011
EXPENSES				
Assessment and taxation	19,986	15,136	4,850	10,045
Audit	1,368	903	465	658
Chief administrative offices	3,471	2,901	570	2,324
City clerks	14,550	14,352	198	11,912
Community services	111,409	110,548	861	92,127
Corporate	72,356	75,122	(2,766)	60,504
Corporate finance	9,015	8,225	790	6,855
Corporate support services	37,254	36,534	720	29,837
Council	3,476	3,487	(11)	2,676
Fire paramedic service	190,274	190,322	(48)	155,427
Legal services	3,183	3,059	124	2,514
Mayor's office	1,869	1,870	(1)	1,017
Museums	1,031	1,031	-	1,006
Planning, property and development	45,528	45,955	(427)	36,960
Police services	280,670	284,411	(3,741)	236,448
Policy and strategic initiatives	807	807	-	652
Public works	215,521	219,584	(4,063)	180,419
Street lighting	12,963	12,470	493	10,433
Water and waste	30,399	28,380	2,019	21,554
Total Expenses	1,055,130	1,055,097	33	863,368
Forecasted Surplus/(Deficit)	$ -	$ 2,547	$ 2,547	$ (38,357)

Notes:
(1) See Schedule 5 for comparable departmental view.

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG - GENERAL REVENUE FUND **Schedule 2**
BUDGET VARIANCES ARISING FROM THE
OCTOBER 31, 2016 FORECAST
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

(in millions of dollars)
(unaudited)

Assessment and Taxation's favourable variance is mostly due to a decreasing provision for uncollectible payments in lieu of taxes related to in year collections for the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR). This is offset by an increase in remittance to the Province of Manitoba, as a requirement under the CMHR loan agreement. Also contributing to the favourable variance is an increase in tax penalty revenue.		**4.0**
Public Works:		
Revenues are greater than budget primarily due to street cuts operations and surplus transferred from the General Revenue Enterprises Fund. This is resulting from 2016 Budget recommendation 1J. Increased transfers from the Insect Control Reserve for the West Nile Virus Program also contributed.	**6.8**	
Expenses are greater than budget primarily due to street cuts operations transferred from the General Revenue Enterprises Fund. This is resulting from 2016 Budget recommendation 1J. Increased expenses are also related to spending related to the West Nile Virus Program. These are offset by increased revenues above. The net departmental variance is mostly related to position vacancies.	**(4.1)**	**2.7**
Water and Waste department's favourable net mill rate variance is mostly related to decreased tax-supported solid waste expenses.		**1.7**
Community Service department's favourable net mill rate variance is mostly related to savings in salaries and benefits.		**1.4**
The Fire Paramedic department's net mill rate is higher than anticipated due to salaries and benefits expense, including overtime, being over budget. Also contributing is care delay service revenues, anticipated to be less than budget. These are offset partially by additional transfers from the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.		**(1.0)**
Corporate's unfavourable variance is mostly related to a shortfall in budgeted savings and lower than expected recoveries from civic pension charges.		**(2.5)**
The Police Services department's net mill rate is higher than anticipated mainly due to pension costs being over budget, primarily resulting from revised actuarial estimates, as well as a decrease in net photo radar revenues. While the department also anticipates increased salaries and benefits costs, it has identified other expense savings elsewhere to offset these.		**(5.8)**
Other departmental revenues and expenses.		**2.0**
Forecasted Surplus		**$ 2.5**

Notes:
(1) See Schedule 1 and 5 for breakdown of other departmental revenues and expenses.

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG - GENERAL REVENUE FUND — Schedule 3
RECONCILIATION OF SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER FORECAST
OCTOBER 31, 2016 FORECAST
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016

(in millions of dollars)
(unaudited)

Forecasted General Revenue Fund Deficit - September 30, 2016	**$**	**(0.6)**
Other departmental revenues and expenses.		**3.1**
Forecasted General Revenue Fund Surplus - October 31, 2016	**$**	**2.5**

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG - SUMMARY BY FUND
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT AND FORECAST

Schedule 4

Actual for the ten month period ended October 31, 2016
forecasted for the year ending December 31, 2016
(in thousands of dollars)
(unaudited)

	Adopted Budget	Forecast	Variance From Budget	Actual
General Revenue Fund				
Revenues	$ 1,055,130	$ 1,057,644	$ 2,514	$ 825,011
Expenses	1,055,130	1,055,097	33	863,368
Surplus/(Deficit)	$ -	$ 2,547	$ 2,547	$ (38,357)
Transit System				
Revenues	$ 130,491	$ 127,805	$ (2,686)	$ 104,532
Expenses	193,852	190,376	3,476	152,274
	(63,361)	(62,571)	790	(47,742)
Transfer to Reserves	(6,558)	(6,558)	-	(6,558)
Transfer from General Revenue Fund	69,919	69,919	-	55,935
Surplus	$ -	$ 790	$ 790	$ 1,635
Waterworks System				
Revenues	$ 113,812	$ 110,231	$ (3,581)	$ 89,862
Expenses	76,987	72,851	4,136	65,195
	36,825	37,380	555	24,667
Transfer to:				
Water Main Renewal Reserve	(16,500)	(16,500)	-	(13,500)
General Revenue Fund	(13,205)	(13,205)	-	-
Surplus Prior to Principle Debt Repayments	7,120	7,675	555	11,167
Principle Debt Repayments	(4,272)	(4,272)	-	-
Surplus	$ 2,848	$ 3,403	$ 555	$ 11,167

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG - SUMMARY BY FUND
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT AND FORECAST

Schedule 4

Actual for the ten month period ended October 31, 2016
forecasted for the year ending December 31, 2016
(in thousands of dollars)
(unaudited)

	Adopted Budget	Forecast	Variance From Budget	Actual
Sewage Disposal System				
Revenues	$ 166,067	$ 159,272	$ (6,795)	$ 131,105
Expenses	82,280	78,849	3,431	79,174
	83,787	80,423	(3,364)	51,931
Transfer to Reserves	(34,675)	(33,750)	925	(13,552)
Transfer to General Revenue Fund	(28,984)	(28,633)	351	(8,518)
Surplus	$ 20,128	18,040	(2,088)	29,861
Solid Waste Disposal				
Revenues	$ 43,336	$ 43,747	$ 411	$ 27,992
Expenses	37,792	34,272	3,520	21,748
	5,544	9,475	3,931	6,244
Transfer to Reserve	(368)	(354)	14	(270)
Surplus Prior to Principle Debt Repayments	5,176	9,121	3,945	5,974
Principle Debt Repayments	(1,972)	(1,998)	26	-
Surplus	$ 3,204	$ 7,123	$ 3,971	$ 5,974
Municipal Accommodations Fund				
Revenues	$ 75,098	$ 73,209	$ (1,889)	$ 58,918
Expenses	58,964	58,658	306	44,201
	16,134	14,551	(1,583)	14,717
Transfer to:				
General Revenue Fund	(16,134)	(14,551)	1,583	(170)
Surplus	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 14,547

THE CITY OF WINNIPEG - GENERAL REVENUE FUND
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT AND FORECAST

Schedule 5

forecasted for the year ending December 31, 2016
(in thousands of dollars)
(unaudited)

	Revenues			*Expenses*			*Net Mill Rate*
	Adopted Budget	**Forecast**	**Variance Budget/ Forecast**	**Adopted Budget**	**Forecast**	**Variance Budget/ Forecast**	**Variance Budget/ Forecast**
Assessment and taxation	$ 651,088	$ 650,232	$ (856)	$ 19,986	$ 15,136	$ 4,850	$ 3,994
Audit	-	-	-	1,368	903	465	465
Chief administrative offices	-	-	-	3,471	2,901	570	570
City clerks	114	328	214	14,550	14,352	198	412
Community services	17,138	17,631	493	111,409	110,548	861	1,354
Corporate	140,619	140,836	217	72,356	75,122	(2,766)	(2,549)
Corporate finance	5,902	5,883	(19)	9,015	8,225	790	771
Corporate support services	2,095	1,612	(483)	37,254	36,534	720	237
Council	-	-	-	3,476	3,487	(11)	(11)
Fire paramedic service	59,430	58,432	(998)	190,274	190,322	(48)	(1,046)
Legal services	651	614	(37)	3,183	3,059	124	87
Mayor's office	-	-	-	1,869	1,870	(1)	(1)
Museums	-	-	-	1,031	1,031	-	-
Planning, property and development	45,321	44,812	(509)	45,528	45,955	(427)	(936)
Police services	48,048	46,006	(2,042)	280,670	284,411	(3,741)	(5,783)
Policy and strategic initiatives	-	-	-	807	807	-	-
Public works	73,172	79,983	6,811	215,521	219,584	(4,063)	2,748
Street lighting	-	-	-	12,963	12,470	493	493
Waterworks and waste	11,552	11,275	(277)	30,399	28,380	2,019	1,742
Forecasted Surplus/(Deficit)	$ 1,055,130	$ 1,057,644	$ 2,514	$ 1,055,130	$ 1,055,097	$ 33	$ 2,547