



TOWN OF MINTO

MEETING DATE: September 3, 2024
REPORT TO: Mayor Turton and Council
SERVICE AREA: Finance
SUBJECT: FIN 2024-014, 2024 Energy Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Town of Minto hereby receives report 2024-014, regarding the 2024 Energy Plan, prepared by the Treasurer, for information purposes;

AND FURTHER THAT the Council of the Town of Minto adopt the 2024 Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan Update, attached to this report.

BACKGROUND:

Ontario Regulation 25/23 requires prescribed public agencies to update their Energy Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) Plan starting in 2019 and every five years thereafter. Therefore, an updated CDM Plan for the Town of Minto is now required.

The Regulation requires reporting on the following:

- A summary of annual greenhouse gas emissions for each facility;
- A description of the results of previous measures to conserve energy;
- The cost and estimated savings for current and proposed measures to conserve, reduce and manage demand for the next five years;
- Descriptions of any renewable energy generation, ground source energy, solar energy, thermal energy or heat pump project;
- The estimated length of time the municipality's conservation measures will be in place; and
- Confirmation that the CDM Plan has been approved by the municipality's senior management.

For each facility covered by O Reg 25/23, the reporting summary must include:

- The name of the facility.
- The address of the facility.
- The total floor area of the facility.
- The type of facility.
- Average operating hours per week.
- Total amount of each type of energy consumed.
- The calculated Greenhouse Gas Emissions from this energy use.

COMMENTS:

In addition to the CDM Plan updates, the annual amount and type of energy used per facility plus street lighting is reported every year. Up until 2024, the reporting year was two years previous, i.e. in 2023, we reported on 2021. However, in 2024 the Ministry of Energy wished to have more current data, so the reporting submitted was for 2022 and 2023.

The Town hired consultants through the AMO-owned organization Local Authority Services (LAS), which in turn hired Tree House Energy Services to work with the Town of Minto. Staff has held many virtual meetings with Tree House to review the actions and status of the existing Plan and possible actions to take which cover the next five-year period.

The consultants wished to have more detailed information on energy consumption, so the previous practice of reporting on the annual energy consumption per facility for one year was converted into providing monthly data for two years. This increased the number of reporting data points from 27 to approximately 700. The software which is mandated for this reporting by the Ministry of Energy is Portfolio Manager, which is a highly detailed web-based reporting package created by Energy Start.

When consumption differences between 2019 and 2023 were calculated, it was noted that in general electricity use is up by about 9%, while natural gas and propane consumption was lower by about 22%. The top four energy consumption facilities in the Town of Minto are the Palmerston Arena, Harriston Arena, Harriston Combined Wastewater sites and Palmerston Combined Wastewater sites.

Several proposed actions to take over the next five years which would reduce energy consumption are outlined in Section 9 of the new CDM Plan. These focus on these top four users, but also cover the Administration Office and Fire Halls.

The Town of Minto has invested in energy-savings measures to a great degree in the past. These successes are outlined in Table 5 of the CDM, and these projects are in addition to the \$1 million streetlight upgrade project undertaken in 2013-15 which replaced the high-consumption mercury vapour and sodium lights with high efficiency LED fixtures.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

While undoubtedly, energy-saving measures will reduce costs paid for energy consumption, the affordability and payback time of these investments will depend upon available grant

funding and municipal financial resources. Staff and Council will remain alert for future funding opportunities.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

GOAL 1: Manage our Infrastructure

Maintain, Renew and Expand our municipally owned infrastructure to enhance healthy growth and our environment.

1.3 Caring for our environment.

- i. Evaluate municipal facilities for energy efficiency upgrades.

Prepared By: Gordon Duff, Treasurer

Reviewed By: Gregg Furtney, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)