

**City of Kawartha Lakes
2023 Proposed Water & Wastewater Operating & Capital Budgets
Council Question and Answer**

	Member of Council	Page #	Question/Request	Answer
1	Joyce	165	This area not affected by the pandemic, yet expenses per system are all over the map (too high versus previous years with some; negative increases with others). Why the wide fluctuations from year to year?	Operating a water or wastewater system requires adapting to the environment and making necessary adjustments. There could be many factors contributing to the fluctuation including maintenance program requirements, raw water quality, contract renewals, staffing shortages, inspection timing, system upsets, failures, testing, MECP directives, etc.
2	Perry	165	Please explain reduction of the Water System amounts for Fenelon Falls and Fenelon Township – Southview Estates: (16,962) and (7,541) respectively.	For the Fenelon Falls DWS, the projected increase in revenues and accompanying reduction to debenture principal and interest payments exceed with projected increase in operating for a net reduction of \$16,962. For the Southview DWS, there were very minor increases in operating costs, but they were offset by a larger reduction in debenture principal and interest payments for a net reduction of \$7,541.
3	Perry	166	Please explain reduction of the Water System amounts for Fenelon Falls sewers.	For the Fenelon Falls wastewater system, the budget saw a reduction in projected revenues based on actuals. It also saw a corresponding reduction in estimated operating contractual costs and a reduction in debenture principal and interest payments for a net budget reduction of \$16,943.
4	Warren	168	Water and WW tax revenues? This is user pay	Water and wastewater revenue is generated from the users of City water and sewer systems. The user rate is set through the Water and Wastewater Rate Study which looks at both operating and capital needs and ensures the rate is set at a level that all know expenses are covered.

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5	Joyce	168	Operating materials & supplies – Please explain the 22% increase over 2021.	The majority of the change to this line is related to chemical supply contracts required for treatment of water. The City has previously performed extensive testing and evaluation of chemicals for this purpose.
6	Smeaton	168	Please clarify the \$100 000 Donations and other revenue.	Staff are projecting an increase in revenue from the extra strength sewer surcharge agreement process, per By-law 2016-006, as amended.
7	Joyce	169	Material & Equip charges – Please explain the 53% increase over 2021.	In 2021, WWW took over two additional facilities. Costs for general operation and maintenance of the existing and new facilities have experiences general inflationary increases.
8	Joyce	169	Professional fees – Please explain the 28% increase over 2021.	\$40k of this increase is a one-time cost to remove the old Woodville WTP. There are other increases related to bulk water payment system, audits, data management and backwater subsidy program.
9	Joyce	169	Building maintenance – Please explain the 58% increase over 2021.	This has increased from 2021 due to taking on two additional facilities. There was a corresponding reduction to contracted services. For 2023, the increase is related to a specific project to repair a walkway at the Lindsay WTP.
10	Joyce	169	Grounds Maintenance – Please explain the 84% increase over 2021.	This has increased from 2021 due to taking on two additional facilities. There was a corresponding reduction to contracted services. There has also been a significant increase in winter maintenance. This is part of the City-wide contract – budgeted based on actual costs.

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11	Perry	169	Please provide more information on the Contracted Service. Can any of these be done/moved in-house by the City and/or with new staff hires?	The City currently has a hybrid operating model for water and wastewater operations in place which provides for an effective balance of internal and contracted resources. Staff periodically review the hybrid model to see if we can improve operations and reduce costs. Should there be a recommendation to adjust the hybrid model, we will present Council with a report and associated recommendations.
12	Ashmore	174	Thornhill Reservoir Retaining Wall. What is causing the damage if there is to this wall that requires its replacement	The existing segmental block retaining wall has reached the end of it's lifecycle and is in need of replacement. A new retaining wall will be engineered and constructed to replace the existing wall. Failure could be caused by many factors, but has not been assessed at this time.