



STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

Report No. 38-2024

Date: June 3, 2024

From: Matthew Armstrong, Chief Administrative Officer & Treasurer

Re: 2024 St. Lawrence Lodge Budget

Recommendation:

That Council direct Staff to rescind the Notice of Objection to St. Lawrence Lodge for the 2024 Budget, subject to receiving the total resident days broken down by Municipal partner for the last 10 years, and

That Council direct Staff to pay the quarterly levy amount based on the revised 2024 Levy subject to receiving the total resident days broken by Municipal partner for the last 10 years, and

That Council direct Staff to put the \$102,046 difference between the original 2024 St. Lawrence Lodge Levy, and the revised 2024 St. Lawrence Lodge Levy into a reserve to help offset future increases in the St. Lawrence Lodge Levy, and

That Council ask for a formal response to the request that the St. Lawrence Lodge Board of Management undertake an Operational Review of St. Lawrence Lodge to be completed by November 30, 2024, with the intended outcome to fully analyze the organization's financial issues and produce recommendations that will stabilize and result in sustainable future municipal levy increases.

Background/Analysis:

On May 28, 2024, the St. Lawrence Lodge Board of Management approved a revised 2024 Budget which incorporates the funding details released on May 6, 2024, by the Ministry of Long-Term Care.

The provincial funding is \$1,776,604 higher than estimated in the original budget. An increase was made to the Nursing Agency expense budget from \$250,000 to \$1,325,000. The wages and benefits expenses for Nursing Direct Care were decreased by \$500,000 to reflect that contracted Nursing Agency budget increase. The use of a contracted Nursing Agency is to address unfilled vacancies. This resulted in a net increase in



expenses of \$575,000. The municipal levies were decreased by \$1,201,604 from the original 2024 Budget.

The overall 2024 municipal levy increased is 20% versus the 65% that was in the original budget. The municipal levy for the Town of Prescott is set to increase 36% due to a stated proportional increase in resident days from the Town of Prescott, however the total resident days by municipal partner have not been provided.

Municipal Partner	2023 Levy	2024 Original Levy	Original % Increase	2024 Revised Levy	Revised % Increase
City of Brockville	1,646,496	2,686,264	63%	1,962,899	19%
Town of Gananoque	24,715	58,009	135%	42,388	72%
United Counties of Leeds and Grenville	837,432	1,338,670	60%	978,189	17%
Town of Prescott	203,683	379,290	86%	277,154	36%
Total	2,712,326	4,462,233	65%	3,260,630	20%

The table below shows the 2022 through 2024 Revised St. Lawrence Lodge Levy.

Year	Amount	Increase	% Increase	Cumulative	Cumulative %
2022	183,883				
2023	203,683	19,800	11%	19,800	11%
2024 Original	379,200	175,517	86%	195,317	106%
2024 Revised	277,154	73,471	36%	93,271	51%

The Town also pays \$240,235 for long-term debt resulting from the St. Lawrence Lodge redevelopment project, with a revenue offset of approximately \$80,000 per year. A portion of the debt will be retired at the end of 2024 with the remaining amount being retired at the end of 2025.

Alternatives:

None



Financial Implications:

The revised 2024 St. Lawrence Lodge Municipal Levy is \$102,046 less than the original levy. It is recommended that this amount be set aside in a reserve to help offset future increases in the St. Lawrence Lodge Levy above the rate of inflation. The Town of Prescott levy for St. Lawrence Lodge increased by 11% in 2023 and 36% in 2024. The compounding effect is an overall increase of 51% in the municipal levy paid to St. Lawrence Lodge between 2022 and 2024.

Environmental Implications:

None.

Attachments:

None.

Submitted by:

Matthew Armstrong,
Chief Administrative Officer & Treasurer