

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - FEBRUARY 28, 2012

STORM POND SEDIMENT REMOVAL – PONDS 15 AND 105

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works, in consultation with the Commissioner of Finance and City Treasurer, recommend that the following report be received for information.

Contribution to Sustainability

The cleaning and removal of sediments from storm water management ponds improves storm water quality, restores storm water storage volumes, and contributes to environmental sustainability.

Economic Impact

There is no economic impact on any other capital project as a result of the recommendations contained in this report, or the actions previously undertaken to fund the sediment removal from storm ponds 15 and 105.

Communications Plan

N/A

Purpose

To inform Council of a previously unspecified capital account utilized to partially fund the sediment removal and disposal from storm ponds 15 and 105.

Background - Analysis and Options

On May 24, 2011, Council awarded Tender T11-027 for the sediment removal from storm ponds 15 and 105. The estimated cost for the removal of sediment from these two ponds was \$160,000, with a contingency of \$16,000.

In the tender award report to Council, staff identified in the Economic Impact section that "*Capital funds to cover the cost of the removal of sediments & improvements of storm water management pond #15 is allocated from Project PW-2002-07 and for Pond #105 is allocated from Project PW-2008-07.*" Staff failed to identify Capital Project PW-2028-09 as another funding source for this work.

The sediment removal from the two ponds was put out under one tender. Once the work started, two change orders in the amount of \$26,504 were required to fund repairs to broken inlet blocks discovered once one of the ponds was de-watered, and to fund a change in material type for one of the access roads.

Once the ponds were de-watered, it was also discovered that the quantity of sediment requiring removal had increased substantially from when the original design work had been completed. The original estimated volume of sediment to be removed from the two ponds was 3,692 cubic meters. An additional 2,758 cubic meters of sediment had to be removed and disposed of at an additional cost of \$85,626. The two change orders and the additional sediment removal added \$112,130. (plus non-rebatable HST and 3% admin.) to the original estimated cost.

The accounts identified in the May 24, 2011 Council report (PW-2002-07 and PW-2008-07), did not contain sufficient funds to pay for the additional work identified above. The Council award report had neglected to specify that in 2009, PW-2028-09, also a gas tax funded capital account, had been specifically created to address the removal of additional sediments from storm ponds, recognizing that design surveys conducted without de-watering were subject to systemic under-estimation of the sediment material from ponds 15 and 105.

Although PW-2028-09 was not identified as a funding source in the original report to Council, it has been used to fund the sediment removal from these two ponds. This constituted an appropriate use of this account and there was no impact on any other capital projects. Staff is bringing this information to the attention of Council for the sake of transparency and accountability.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and ties into the following Vaughan Vision 20/20 Goals and Objectives:

Goal: Service Excellence
Objective: Pursue Excellence in Service Delivery

Goal: Organizational Excellence
Objective: Manage Corporate assets

Regional Implications

The storm ponds are City-owned assets and therefore there are no regional implications.

Conclusion

Although PW-2028-09 was not identified as a funding source in the original report to Council, it has been used to fund the sediment removal from these two ponds. PW-2028-09, a gas tax funded capital account, had been specifically created to address the removal of additional sediments from storm ponds, recognizing that design surveys conducted without de-watering were subject to systemic under-estimation of the sediment material from ponds. This constituted an appropriate use of this account and there was no impact on any other capital projects. Staff is bringing this information to the attention of Council for the sake of transparency and accountability.

Attachments

N/A

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