HALDIMAND COUNTY

Memorandum FIN-M02-2019 Update on Interest Rate for 2019 Debenture Issue



For Consideration by Council on June 24, 2019

To: Mayor Hewitt and Members of Council

From: Charmaine Corlis, Treasurer

On May 7th, 2019, staff presented Report FIN-06-2019 RE: Debt Issuance – 2019 to Council outlining the following projects approved for debenture financing in 2019:

| Project | <u>Non-Growth</u> <u>Related</u> | <u>Growth</u> Related | Total Debt | Term | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------|--|--|
| Tax Supported Debt | | | | | | |
| Cayuga Library | \$1,624,000 | \$675,800 | \$2,299,800 | 10 | | |
| Central Administration Facility | \$19,450,000 | \$0 | \$19,450,000 | 20 | | |
| Conversion of CNR Train Bridge (*) | \$1,160,000 | \$0 | \$1,160,000 | 10 | | |
| Total Tax Supported Debt | \$22,234,000 | \$675,800 | \$22,909,800 | | | |
| Rate Supported Debt | | | | | | |
| Dunnville WWTP Replacements | \$8,720,000 | \$458,950 | \$9,178,950 | 10 | | |
| Townsend Lagoon Upgrades | \$0 | \$562,500 | \$562,500 | 10 | | |
| Total Rate Supported Debt | \$8,720,000 | \$1,021,450 | \$9,741,450 | | | |
| Total 2019 Debt Issuance | \$30,954,000 | \$1,697,250 | \$32,651,250 | | | |

(*) - future principle and interest payments to be funded from Ward 2 Community Vibrancy payments

In the report, staff noted the following timeline related to the issuance:

| Step | Timeline | |
|--|-----------------|--|
| Update Council on Debentures to be issued | May 7, 2019 | |
| Passing of Borrowing By-law | May 13, 2019 | |
| Final approval of application by Infrastructure Ontario (IO) | June 5, 2019 | |
| Interest Rate Offer received and returned to IO * | June 17, 2019 | |
| Memo to Council outlining final interest rates | June 24, 2019 | |
| Council meeting to approve Debenture By-law | June 24, 2019 | |
| Legal counsel to contact IO by 10am of closing day | July 2, 2019 | |

*Actual date interest rate received was June 19, 2019

As noted in FIN-06-2019, this memo is to update Council on the final interest rates for the upcoming debenture issuance. The interest rates are constantly fluctuating, whether the debentures are issued through Infrastructure Ontario (IO) or the capital market, therefore the interest rate provided in the previous report was not expected to be the same rate the County would receive when the debentures were finalized and executed. The following table provides an example of the fluctuations since Council authorized issuing debt through IO:

| | 10 Year Term | 20 Year Term | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--|
| Final Rates (received June 19, 2019) | <u>2.40%</u> | <u>2.71%</u> | |
| June 3, 2019 | 2.43% | 2.77% | |
| Per FIN-06-2019 (as of April 25, 2019) | 2.56% | 2.94% | |

As indicated by the table above, the rates have decreased since the report was reviewed by Council.

Report FIN-06-2019 provided staff with authorization to confirm acceptance of the interest rate offers provided by IO. This was completed on June 19, 2019. Due to the fluctuating nature of interest rates, there will be a positive impact on the County's total borrowing costs paid over the term of the debentures, as compared to the rates reported in FIN-06-2019. A summary chart displaying these impacts is shown below:

| 10 Year Debt - \$13,201,250 | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| | Rate | Total Borrowing Cost | | | |
| FIN-06-2019 Estimate | 2.56% | \$1,776,470 | | | |
| Actual IO Offer of June 19, 2019 | 2.40% | \$1,665,441 | | | |
| Increase/(decrease) | (0.16%) | (\$111,029) | | | |
| 20 Year Debt - \$19,450,000 | | | | | |
| | Rate | Total Borrowing Cost | | | |
| FIN-06-2019 Estimate | 2.94% | \$5,866,937 | | | |
| Actual IO Offer of June 19, 2019 | 2.71% | \$5,407,959 | | | |
| Increase/(decrease) | (0.23%) | (\$458,978) | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Total increase/(decrease) | <u>(\$570,007)</u> | | | | |

Although the actual change in the interest rate is relatively minor, the savings on the total borrowing cost, over the term of the debentures based on the final interest rates, is significant totalling approximately \$570,000 (\$111,000 for the 10 year debenture and \$459,000 for the 20 year debenture). The decrease in interest costs is spread across the 10 and 20 year term of the debentures.

Report FIN-06-2019 also provided that the necessary by-laws authorizing the issuances of debentures be presented for consideration at the June 24, 2019 Council meeting. As such, Debenture By-laws for both the 10 and 20 year terms must be passed at the June 24th, 2019 Council meeting to ensure the funds can be released to the County on July 2^{nd,} 2019 at the borrowing rates currently guaranteed by IO.