

Staff Report

Report To: Operations Committee
Report From: Matt Prentice, Manager of Public Works
Meeting Date: March 16, 2023
Report Code: OP-23-011
Subject: 2022 Annual Report – City of Owen Sound Water System

Recommendations:

THAT in consideration of Staff Report OP-23-011 respecting the 2022 Annual Report – City of Owen Sound Water System, the Operations Committee recommends that City Council receive the report for information purposes.

Highlights:

- Treated water consumption increased slightly but billed consumption decreased. Systemic Leak Detection is scheduled for 2024.
- Unaccounted-for water is 20.6% of the total treated volume.
- The number of main breaks was representative of a typical year. One hundred forty-eight services ran water to prevent freezing in winter 2022.
- In 2022, there were 30 Water Quality Complaints and 9 Water Pressure Complaints, typical numbers.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

This report supports the delivery of Core Service.

Climate and Environmental Implications:

There are no anticipated climate or environmental impacts.

Previous Report/Authority:

None.

Background:

Annually, the Owen Sound Water System is required, under O. Reg. 170/0 Schedule 22, to submit Summary Reports to be presented to Council by March 31 of each year. Once presented to Council for information, they are legislatively required to be made public by posting the report on the City's website. The reports describe the treatment and distribution systems for each water network, compliance status, and flow rate results. The City also prepares a yearly Annual Report that conforms to the requirements of Section 11 of the Regulation. While Council does not need to receive the Section 11 reports officially, they are also appended for Council's information.

Analysis:

The 2022 Annual Summary Report for the City of Owen Sound's Water System is attached. The summary includes the following information:

- Any requirements of the Act and Regulation, Orders or System Approval(s) that the system failed to meet during the reporting period and the measures taken to correct each failure.
- A summary of the quantities and flow rates of water supplied during the reporting period, including monthly averages and maximum daily flows.
- A comparison of the average and monthly maximum daily flows to the approved capacity specified in the System Approval.

Water Treatment Volume

Total treated water production was up 1.0 per cent over 2021, but the billed consumption was down by 8.86 per cent. This indicates that there was an increase in non-revenue water in 2022. This will be discussed further under the Water Distribution section.

There were two adverse reports in 2022, the same as in 2021. One was a coagulant tube failure, which was corrected quickly, and one was a low-pressure event caused by two main breaks on the watermain on Highway 6 and 10.

Water Distribution

There were 25 main breaks, representing an increase over 2021, which had 20 main breaks.

The City required 148 services to run water 24/7 during winter to prevent freezing. This substantially increased over the frost line property number in 2021, totalling 35. The City has a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to have certain customers run water, implemented in stages depending on the total number of accumulated "Negative Degree days" since the beginning of the freezing period. In the winter of 2021/22, it was necessary to implement additional stages versus 2020/2021, based on this procedure. It is assumed that this other frost protection consumption directly affected the non-revenue water as the water bills are adjusted to an average of past consumption for those properties rather than making the residents pay for the total volume being run to prevent the pipes from freezing.

With water loss due to main breaks and the non-revenue frost protection consumption, the unaccounted-for water in 2022 was 20.6 per cent, up from 16.3 per cent in 2021.

Financial Implications:

There are no budgetary implications as this report is a regulatory requirement for information purposes that identifies a summary of water-related activities that occurred in 2022.

Communication Strategy:

None required.

Consultation:

This report was prepared in consultation with Mike Duncan, Water Distribution Superintendent, and Troy Pelletier, Water Treatment Superintendent.

Attachments:

- Owen Sound Drinking Water System Annual Summary Report 2022

Recommended by:

Matt Prentice, Manager of Public Works

Submission approved by:

Tim Simmonds, City Manager

For more information on this report, please contact Matt Prentice, Manager of Public Works, at mprentice@owensound.ca or 519-376-4274.