

ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

TREASURER'S REPORT HIGHLIGHTS – 2024

TONNAGES

- Overall, waste volume decreased by 1.9% from the prior year and were less than budgeted by 2.1%. Predicting waste volume can be very difficult from year to year, and 2024 was no different as post COVID volumes continue to trend downward. Commercial hauler and municipal volumes decreased by 2.1% and 2.7%, respectively. These decreases were within range of overall MSW volume decreases from the prior year, which was 2.2%. Business self-hauler volume decreased by 0.99% and correlated with a decrease in C&D volume of 1.2%.
- Total recycling received at the MRF decreased by only 1.0% from the prior year. News, commingle and glass decreased by 2.3%, which is in direct correlation with municipal MSW. OCC increased from the prior year by 1.36% due to an increase in volume received from a few private haulers.
- Total diversion increased by 4.56%; there were increases from the prior year in clean wood/rubble, Ewaste, and scrap metal.
- Revenues and expenses that are impacted by volume, correlated with volume

REVENUE

- Tipping fees for msw/c&d/sludge impacted by volume
- Compost revenues – tipping fees decreased 10.8% due to permit limits; bulk compost sales decreased by 2.2% due to lower supply/less product screened; bagged compost sales increased by 76.3%
- Fuel Surcharge impacted by lower volume and lower fuel prices
- Recycling markets improved over the prior year which led to higher revenues for sale of recyclables
- Increase in interest revenue (Misc. Revenues); approximately \$10k per month
- Trade-in of excavator and skidsteer generated \$57,500 in miscellaneous revenue in current year
- Total revenue increased from the previous year due to higher tipping fees but was less than budgeted due to lower volumes

EXPENDITURES

- Personnel costs are comprised of wages, OT, compensated absences, payroll taxes, health insurance, pension costs, and temp help. Increases from the prior year were mostly budgeted for. Differences in actual/budget costs were effected by items with varying rates that aren't easily determined when our budget is completed – health insurance, HRA realizations, compensated absences, and pension estimates contributed to a majority of the difference.
- Insurance increased due to premium increases. A majority of the increase over the prior year was recognized in December, which is the start of the new policy year for liability insurance.

- Transfer stations costs increased due to the major repair of the Ulster floor
- Fuel costs for hauling impacted by lower volume and lower prices
- Closed landfill maintenance increased and was over budget due an unplanned replacement of pumps and a panel at the Ulster CLF.
- Leachate costs increased because leachate volume increased. We surpassed our budget in May.
- Total expenses were over budget by less than 1%; this was mainly due to uts floor repairs and leachate costs.

SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)

Net operating revenues for the year were down \$117k; ultimately due to less volume compared to the previous year. Interest earned in our operating reserve account remained in our operating reserve account, which is represented as a decrease to our bottom line. Capital outlay includes two purchases from the 2023 budget that totaled \$427k. End of year deficit was due to lower-than-expected volumes, unplanned costs for the UTS floor repair, increased leachate volumes, and the timing of capital purchases from one year to the next (i.e. if the new loader was received two days later, our deficit would have improved by \$304k).