

WARREN COUNTY TREASURER

Michael R. Swan
County Treasurer

Robert V. Lynch II, CPA
Deputy Treasurer

To: All Supervisors
From: Michael R. Swan, Treasurer
Date: August 28, 2015
Subject: Budget Analysis Report

Budget Analysis Report

The purpose of the monthly budget analysis report is to make the County Supervisors and Administration aware of certain issues that may present a problem in the near future or are currently a problem. It is important that appropriate action be taken to address these issues or concerns before they become a problem.

We have analyzed the revenue and expenditure budgets for the County departments as of July 31, 2015 and have noted the following items Supervisors should be aware of:

2015 Revenues

County Clerk

County Clerk Fees – As of July 31, the department has received \$562,600 in County Clerk Fees in 2014 and \$580,434 in 2015 which is an increase of 3.2%. It should be noted that the 2015 amount is through June and is at 48% of the budget for this account, so the actual revenue amount received is lagging behind the budget.

Mortgage Tax – As of July 31, the department has received \$661,580 in Mortgage Tax in 2014 and \$742,470 in 2015 which is an increase of 12.2%. It should be noted that the 2015 amount is through June and is at 53% of the budget for this account, so the actual revenue amount received is on target with the budget.

Automobile Use Tax – As of July 31, the department has received \$238,806 in Automobile Use Tax in 2014 and \$245,435 in 2015 which is an increase of 2.8%. It should be noted that the 2015 amount is through June and is at 53% of the budget for this account, so the actual revenue amount received is on target with the budget.

Sheriff's Correction Division

Jail Services, Other Government – As of July 31, the department has received \$330,168 in Jail Services, Other Government in 2014 and \$255,213 in 2015 which is a decrease of 23%. It should be noted that the 2015 amount is through June and is at 43% of the budget for this account, so the actual revenue amount received is lagging behind the budget.

County Treasurer

Sales Tax – It has been noted that we have collected \$487,706 more in sales taxes through July, 2015 than we did through July, 2014 which is a 1.8% increase. In order to meet the 2015 budget, sales tax revenues will need to increase by 2.5%.

Tourism

Occupancy Tax – The department has collected \$104,310 more in occupancy taxes as of July 31, 2015 than we did as of July 31, 2014 which is an 11.5% increase.

Lake George Watershed Conference

This issue was previously reported in prior 2013, 2014 and 2015 budget analysis reports and it has been reported that an application for payment has been submitted to the State. We have not received any funding to date from the Lake George Watershed Conference.

We currently have an outstanding receivable from the Lake George Watershed Conference for \$102,500 dating back to 2007 relating to a Valley Woods Road Project. It is unclear whether or not we have a contract with the Lake George Watershed Conference for this project, but it is our understanding that they are to pay us when they receive State Aid reimbursement. If we do not collect on this receivable soon we will have to write it off and it will then have to be taken out of the County Road surplus.

Invasive Species Boat Washing

This issue was previously reported in a prior 2015 budget analysis report. We have not received any claims to review and sign and we have not received any State funding for these expenditures incurred in 2014.

The Invasive Species Boat Washing capital project was approved in January of 2014 and as of June, 2014; the County has incurred \$362,731 in expenditures. We are not aware of any claims have been filed with the State for reimbursement and it has been our understanding that this is because we do not even have a contract yet with the State. The same individual who administered the funding for the Valley Woods Road Project with the Lake George Watershed Conference is also administering the State grant for the Invasive Species Boat Washing which has caused us great concern that we will not have timely filing of documents and State Aid claims.

2015 Expenditures

Please see the attached Budget Exception report which summarizes budgeted expenditure line items where there is currently a problem or there may be a problem in the future. We are reporting on an exception basis only. Please note that Westmount's budget was amended in May, 2015 which will clear up most of the overspent items reported in this report.

County Debt

The following shows the County's current debt outstanding as of July 31, 2015 along with ending debt balances for future years:

	Current	End of 2015					2020-	2025-	2030-
Bonds	Balance	Balance	2016	2017	2018	2019	2024	2029	2034
Pub Safety Bldg & Com Upgrade	8,860,000	8,860,000	7,695,000	6,555,000	5,430,000	4,325,000	-	-	-
Recovery Act Bonds, Various Proj	18,785,000	18,190,000	17,575,000	16,935,000	16,265,000	15,570,000	11,545,000	6,405,000	-
Airport Hangar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Leases									
Westmount Co-Generation Plant	735,038	587,123	221,019	-	-	-	-	-	-
Municipal Center Energy Project	1,730,060	1,570,826	1,397,703	1,209,177	1,003,899	781,029	-	-	-
Countryside Adult Home Energy Pr	177,384	165,663	141,209	115,818	88,084	59,553	-	-	-
Bond Anticipation Notes									
Abatement & Demolition #1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Abatement & Demolition #2	29,207	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alder Brook Brdg over Trout Brdg	90,504	60,336	30,168	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harrington Road Bridge	35,869	23,913	11,957	-	-	-	-	-	-
Beach Road Bridge	359,958	239,972	119,986	-	-	-	-	-	-
2011 Storm Damage	660,000	440,000	220,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Brook Parking Lot	91,800	61,200	30,600	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Outstanding	33,209,603	30,199,033	27,442,642	24,814,995	22,786,983	20,735,581	11,545,000	6,405,000	-

Again, we invite comments from Supervisors and department heads to expand this into a more useful management tool in these critical financial times.