

**TO:** Mayor J. Lehman and Members of General Committee

**FROM:** J. F. Thompson, P.Eng., CMM, PMP, Director of Environmental Services *JF Thompson*

**NOTED:** Richard Forward, MBA, M.Sc., P.Eng. *Richard Forward*  
General Manager of Infrastructure & Growth Management  
C. Ladd, Chief Administrative Officer *C. Ladd*

**RE:** Bulk Water Filling Station – Update, Water Operations Branch, Environmental Services Department

**DATE:** August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The purpose of this Memo is to apprise Council of the benefits realized through the installation of an automated Bulk Water Filling Station at Barrie's Ferndale Drive, Operations Centre, in December 2013.

The 2013 automated bulk water filling station installation was approved and completed primarily to address health and safety concerns noted at the previously utilized filling station located inside the Ferndale Drive Operations Centre building. The installation successfully ameliorated the identified safety concerns.

Formerly, any water drawn was monitored (and subsequently billed) solely on the "honour system" whereby contractors were responsible to write down the volume of water taken during each filling visit to the site as adequate staff resources were not available to oversee every fill. As a result, many truck fills weren't properly captured and potential revenue dollars escaped the billing process.

The automated filling station installed in 2013 requires users to obtain a specific electronic user ID and Password by contacting representatives from the Water Operations Branch. Each user group is designated their own account, ensuring all water taken from the station is accurately metered and appropriately billed. As a result, revenues for bulk water sales from the Ferndale Drive automated location have increased by some twenty three percent since the automated filling stations installation in December 2013, with an annual high of \$53,047.22 in 2015 water sales (compared to \$43,040.97 in 2012). Current 2016 sales figures for this automated Bulk Water facility stand at \$28,497.03 as of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

The anticipated growth and development expected in the "annexed lands" means that the demand for bulk water can be expected to increase dramatically to facilitate the myriad of construction and neighbourhood development projects. As such, the availability of bulk water in Barrie's south end will become a priority for developers and their contractors. The filling station at the Operations Centre will continue to be well utilized.

City staff will be evaluating the potential benefits of adding additional Bulk Water Sales site(s) in proximity to the known growth areas.

If you have questions or seek additional information, please contact Mr. Chris Marchant, Acting Manager of Water Operations (extension 6145) or Mr. John Thompson, (extension 4802).

Chris Marchant  
Manager of Water Operations (Acting)