

**VILLAGE OF GATES MILLS**  
**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED APRIL 30, 2024**  
**May 19, 2024**

**MONTHLY RESULTS AND FINANCIAL POSITION**

The financial statements were provided to the Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer and Council prior to the May 2024 Council meeting.

The Village is one third through its fiscal year and at this point appears in good shape to achieve or slightly better its break-even 2024 budget. Real estate tax revenues are up slightly, RITA projects a higher level of municipal income, traffic camera receipts are steady and Village expenses are in line with budget. The Mayfield Road culvert replacement is nearly complete with no complications that would require added Village funds.

**GENERAL FUND**

Year-to-date revenue was \$2,767,000 including \$578,000 in traffic camera receipts. Excluding those receipts, revenue would have been \$2,189,000 ahead of last year's amount of \$1,981,000 by \$208,000. Real estate tax collections were ahead of last year by \$66,000. Real estate tax collections are dependent on the county's billing and collection and taxpayer timing of payments. Municipal income tax receipts are up 12% at this point. In response to our request for an updated 2024 projection and based on current information, etc., RITA is of the view that our collections will be roughly \$2.3 to \$2.4 million. The Village budgeted \$2.1 million.

The traffic camera enforcement program in combination with the Lyndhurst Court and the vendor started in mid-August, so there were no gross collection receipts in the revenue category nor expenditures last year. Gross collections in 2024 were \$578,000. Expenses to the Lyndhurst Court and to Gatso appear in the Police expenditure categories and were \$254,000 in 2024 for a margin of 56%. The Lyndhurst Court advised us that their per ticket charge to us will increase \$5 starting this spring. We do not see a need to increase the violation charge at this time.

Other source revenue was \$405,000 above 2023 of \$312,000. We achieved higher receipts in ambulance income, interest, rental income, and lower receipts in the Mills Building rental income.

Expenditures for 2024 were \$2,449,000 compared to \$2,273,000 in 2023. Excluding transfers to other funds from the General Fund, Village expenditures in the first quarter of 2024 were \$2,253,000 compared to \$1,787,000 in 2023. Of this \$466,000 overage, traffic camera expenses accounted for \$253,900 and the new grass cutter tractor and attachments were \$175,000. Village expenditures are budgeted and controlled via its four departments - (Administration, Police, Fire and Service) and Transfers from the General Fund to other specific funds such as the Capital Improvement Fund.

The Administration department incurred \$356,000 in 2024, \$38,000 over the prior year due to legal and professional fees being \$9,000 higher and insurance being \$13,000 higher. Legal and professional fees were due to more timely invoicing occasioned by the switch in law firms, more legal matters, using a broadband consulting firm and other annual services.

The Police Department incurred \$877,000 YTD of which, \$254,000 was associated with the traffic camera program. Excluding those costs to discuss comparability, actual expenditures in 2024 were \$623,000

compared to \$573,000 in 2023. The largest difference was in higher personnel costs of \$75,000 and \$10,000 lower dispatch operating costs.

The Fire Department costs of \$251,000 were below the prior year of \$287,000. Quarterly ambulance and EMS costs were \$40,000 lower this year due to the lower volume. Year-to-date calls are 54 this year compared to 82 last year. Ambulance income was much higher as the data entry and billing backlog from the outside service provider from the third quarter was caught up and billings were collected and remitted to us. Fire department runs were up this year from 70 to 85, but we have been able to stay close to budgeted dollars so far.

In the Service Department, and excluding capital expenditures, we spent \$578,000, \$36,000 above the prior year amount of \$542,000. We spent \$62,000 more on personnel costs, \$24,000 less on salt due to a milder winter and more at the Mills building for the three new HVAC units to replace units that failed during the winter storm. We also took delivery and paid for the new cutter tractor and attachments at a cost of \$175,000.

In summary, for the first four months of the year, the Village operated with a General Fund surplus of \$317,000 compared to a shortfall of \$292,000 in 2023. 2023 included a \$250,000 road program overrun due to unforeseen subsurface conditions that was paid for in January of 2023. For 2024, the largest variance is traffic camera net receipts.

The General Fund cash balance at April 30, 2024 was \$7,898,000 compared to the beginning of the year balance of \$7,580,000.

#### **OTHER FUNDS**

The Village is required to maintain other special purpose funds by statute or contract. Cash in these special purpose funds amounted to \$2,041,000 at April 30, 2024. The increase from the end of 2023 was due to transfers from the General Fund into certain of these funds. In the first four months, the Village remitted \$65,523 to the Gates Mills Land Conservancy as its share of levy dollars collected. Over the summer months, we expect to expend \$1,000,000 for the Mayfield Road culvert replacement, County Line Road repaving, and the village road program. Those three projects have started earlier than prior year paving and road projects.

This report will be published on the Village website.

Steven L. Siemborski  
Mayor, Village of Gates Mills.