



Committee of the Whole

April 14, 2026

Staff Report: #FIN-2026-49

REPORT BY: Christian Illman, Treasurer
REPORT SUBJECT: 2026 Waste Management Charges
DEPARTMENT: Finance

RECOMMENDATION(S):

***“THAT,** Council approve the equalization of waste management charges for all users, except for village curbside collection which will be based on village property counts, and*

***FURTHER THAT** The \$12,211 for IC&I blue-box pickup be incorporated into the waste management charges for an additional \$3.23 on all properties.*

1. BACKGROUND

During 2025 budget deliberations, Council provided feedback that user charges for waste management services should be calculated on a per-household basis rather than by assessment, as home value does not relate to usage. Also, Council felt that charges should be uniform for all residents, except for curbside collection, which is specific to Lanark Village.

In 2025, Council approved the phase-out over three years (2025 to 2027) of the waste management area of the budget funded from the tax base.

2. DISCUSSION

Waste management charges appear on the final tax billing. A small portion of the charge is included with the overall tax levy, which is being phased out over three years starting in 2025 and will be fully phased out by 2027. The calculations used to determine the fees are attached (Schedule A) to provide transparency for residents and are reviewed each year based on the costs approved as part of the annual budget process.

There has been an ongoing discussion surrounding Industrial, Commercial and Institutional (IC&I) blue-box pickup and how the Township will handle the transition of this program, which will continue to be addressed throughout the year. As it stands, the Township's anticipated cost for 2026 is \$12,211. For 2026, it is recommended that this cost be absorbed through the general waste levy, adding \$3.23 per property.

The fees proposed in 2026 were presented to the Lanark Highlands Waste Committee. The Committee passed a motion to support the waste levy as proposed, including the \$12,211 for IC& blue-box pick-up (Option 1 of the options outlined below).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications are identified below with each option.

3. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Option 1 (Recommended):

Equalize the charges for all users, including the \$12,211 for IC&I blue-box pickup, except for village curbside collection which will be based on village property counts. This is recommended, as the Township would cover all related waste management costs, including IC&I blue-box pickup.

Area	2026 Rate (\$)	2025 Rate (\$)	Change (\$)
Lanark Village	\$ 336.90	\$ 289.90	\$ 47.00
Outside Village	\$ 205.37	\$ 180.11	\$ 25.26

Option 2:

Equalize the charges for all users, excluding the \$12,211 for IC&I blue-box pickup, except for village curbside collection which will be based on village property counts. Not recommended as the Township would need to cover the additional costs for IC&I blue-box pickup through potential surplus or operating reserves.

Area	2026 Rate (\$)	2025 Rate (\$)	Change (\$)
Lanark Village	\$ 333.66	\$ 289.90	\$ 43.76
Outside Village	\$ 202.14	\$ 180.11	\$ 22.03

4. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Financial Management 3.5

5. RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND POLICIES

Municipal Act, 2001

6. OTHERS CONSULTED

*Waste Management Committee
Members of Management*

7. ATTACHMENTS

Schedule A – 2026 Waste Management Charge Calculation

Prepared By: Christian Illman, Treasurer

Approved By: Suzanne Charbonneau-Dent, CAO