

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH  
RECREATION, PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2022 @ 4:00 P.M.  
VIA WEB CONFERENCING**

**Committee Members Present:**

- Steve McCabe, Councillor, Chair
- Dan Yake, Councillor
- Brian Milne, Deputy Mayor, Township of Southgate

**Staff Members Present:**

- Mandy Jones, Interim Manager Programming and Community Engagement (MPCE)
- Tom Bowden, Recreation Services Manager (RSM)
- Jessica Turnbull, Administrative Support
- Darren Jones, Interim CAO /Chief Building Official (CBO)
- Cathy Conrad, Deputy Clerk

**Guests:**

- Andy Lennox, Mayor

<b>Calling to Order</b>
Chair McCabe called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
<b>Adoption of Agenda</b>
RESOLUTION RPL 2022-034 Moved by Member Yake Seconded by Member Milne  THAT the agenda for the June 7, 2022, Township of Wellington North Recreation, Parks and Leisure Committee meeting be accepted and passed.  CARRIED
<b>Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest</b>
None
<b>Deputation</b>
<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting – April 5, 2022 approved at Council on April 11, 2022, 2022</b>
RESOLUTION RPL 2022-035 Moved by Member Milne Seconded by Member Yake  THAT the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Committee receive the minutes of the May 10, 2022, Committee Meeting.  CARRIED

<b>Business Arising From Minutes</b>
<b>Ad Hoc Committee Updates</b>
<p>Arthur Lions Skateboard Park (Verbal)                  The RSM stated the Arthur Lions Club and staff will be putting crushed stone around the outside of the skateboard park temporarily in order to open it for July 1<sup>st</sup> weekend. In the fall, topsoil and grass seed will be placed.                  The concrete slab was poured Friday, June 3, 2022 and Canadian Ramp Company is scheduled to begin putting the equipment in later in June.</p>
<b>Reports</b>
<p>RPL 2022-010 Reduced Fee Bronze Programs                  RESOLUTION RPL 2022-036                  Moved by Member Yake                  Seconded by Member Milne</p> <p>THAT the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Committee receive Report RPL 2022-010 being a report on a reduced fees for bronze courses;</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the Committee recommend that the Council of the Township of Wellington North reduce the 2022 and 2023 fee for bronze medallion and bronze cross to \$100.00;</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT the Committee recommend Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the applicable amended fees and charges by-law after the required notice period.</p> <p>CARRIED</p> <p>The MPCE spoke to Committee about the difficulties staffing the pools. By lowering the cost of the bronze courses more local advanced swimmers will register for the programs placing them on the path to become a lifeguard.</p> <p>Member Milne asked if there is any indication that the cost is the cause for the barriers and if there is any other incentive that can be offered to register for these courses. The MPCE stated that it cannot be said for certain cost is a barrier to pursuing these certifications as it could also be course offerings or schedule availability. The aim is to try and remove or limit one of the barriers. Township continues to investigate adding back-to-back bronze courses that would put an advanced swimmer on the path to becoming a lifeguard sooner and easier.</p> <p>Member Yake asked to be made aware if these is an uptick in registration for these courses.</p>

Mayor Lennox inquired that since lifeguard courses are trained in lifesaving could these courses be eligible for volunteer hours for high school requirements. The MPCE stated she will want to connect with the zone chair with the lifesaving society to see what opportunities exist.

Member Milne suggested that there be an incentive to complete the course and receive a few hours of pool time with friends.

The bronze courses can be offered at our pools locally, but for the national lifeguard pool instructor course, advanced swimmers would have to go outside of our community to receive this training.

The lifeguards will be putting out some interactive marketing day in the life videos at the facilities to drum up interest.

#### Concession

RESOLUTION RPL 2022-037

Moved by Member Yake

Seconded by Member Milne

THAT the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Committee receive for information Report RPL 2022-011 being a report on concession booths at the Mount Forest and Arthur Arenas;

AND FURTHER THAT Committee recommend the Council of the Township of Wellington North direct staff to pursue the Private Business Option 2, with possible implementation in the fall of 2022.

CARRIED

The MPCE stated that in a typical year The Township would hire eleven people including a coordinator to facilitate the operations of the concession booths. As recruitment has become more and more difficult the recommendation contained within this report is seen as a way for the Township to potentially offer concession services, while outsourcing their management and staffing. In a typical year, concession booths would be open September through April several days a week.

Member Milne asked if the \$500 fee is considered high or low. The RSM expressed the fee seems high in terms of what the profits have been over the past few years.

Chair McCabe suggested a fee of \$300 for Mount Forest as they have the Junior B hockey team and \$200 for Arthur and asked if service clubs in either town have been approached.

The MPCE answered staff have not approached service clubs or businesses at this point.

Member Yake suggested a fee of \$250 for each arena to try and keep it consistent and asked staff if they hope to get the same person to run both. The RSM stated they would be open to having one person run both concessions and has talked to one service provider that may be interested in running the one in Mount Forest.

Mayor Lennox indicated to ask for proposals and see what kinds are brought to the table.

Member Milne suggested not charging a fee and setting out service level expectations as well as the possibility of approaching the local Tim Horton's to run the concessions.

Mayor Lennox supports the recommendations and wants to ensure staff know Committee is very flexible with the rates.

#### Mount Forest Lion Roy Grant Pool (Verbal)

The RSM addressed committee with news on the pool and that during the draining and maintenance of the pool staff found the pool liner in the deep end has pulled away from the wall and has several rips in it and is beyond repair for staff. The RSM looked for a quote from a commercial pool company and it came back in at \$168,000 to repair the deep end liner and staff are still looking for another company for another quote. Public Health toured the facility today, and they would like staff to complete a structural inspection of the pool tank walls. Public Health addressed another issue and that was the recirculation rate for the pool and the need for it to be increased. Last year around 20 thousand liters of water were lost per day as there is a crack or break in one of the return lines. There would be an undetermined plumbing and concrete costs associated with fixing it.

Expenses known at present for the pool are estimated at around \$180,000.

In terms timing the liner could be completed in around 2-3 weeks from award and staff would require a further 5 days to open the facility, fill and balance the water.

Member Milne asked for clarification on what happens if the pool did not open. The MPCE stated that in terms of timeline they would not be able to connect with the liner company until the 20<sup>th</sup>, following the Council meeting, which would push the timeline back a couple of weeks. Programming staff have discussed what can be done in the interim if the pool is not able to open for the summer. Staff have not investigated pricing for busing, or other transportation options yet, as some direction is needed on how often the buses need to run, where the priority is (public swimming, family swimming, lessons etc.) and what the daily cost cap will be, and staff could work from there. The pool typically closes August 27<sup>th</sup>.

The CBO clarified to committee that if the decision is to not open the pool it would be not just this summer but next as well until the new pool is built.

Mayor Lennox is prepared to call a special meeting to deal with this issue as timing is a concern.

Member Milne asked if the Arthur Pool has the capacity to take on the extra times. The MPCE explained that the lifeguards would be rescheduled and program offering

would be updated to allow for some more programs and capacities would be able to be increased because more lifeguards would be available to work in Arthur.

Committee directed staff to complete cost analysis reports on busing, activity attendance and the RIDE WELL program etc. for the next council meeting

Mayor Lennox mentioned the GOST bus as a potential idea if The Township decides to go down the closure route.

#### **Items for Consideration**

None

#### **Roundtable**

Arthur OptiMrs Playground Grand Opening

The MPCE the Grand Opening Celebration will take place Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> from 2PM-4PM with speeches by mayor Lennox, Member Yake and Shauna Lougheed, President of the OptiMrs Club.

Pickleball Program Mount Forest

The program is being well received by the community with a number of new players.

George Laughlin Retirement

The RSM stated that a posting came out today for a Lead Hand in Recreation as George Laughlin will be retiring at the end of the month. He started with the Township around 15 years ago.

Member Yake suggested a letter to George from Committee.

#### **Adjournment**

RESOLUTION RPL 2022-038

Moved by Member Yake

Seconded by Member Milne

*THAT the Township of Wellington North Recreation, Parks and Leisure Committee meeting of June 7, 2022 be adjourned at 5:01 p.m.*

CARRIED