Municipality of West Grey Committee of the Whole
Held on Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.
At the Council Chambers – West Grey Municipal Office

Council
Mayor Christine Robinson, Deputy Mayor Tom Hutchinson,
Councillor Beth Hamilton, Councillor Rebecca Hergert, Councillor
Doug Hutchinson, Councillor Geoffrey Shea, Councillor Stephen
Townsend

Staff
Laura Johnston, CAO/Deputy Clerk; Kerri Mighton, Director of
Finance/Treasurer; Stephanie Stewart, Manager, Community
Services

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof - None

Items of Business

The CAO provided the Committee with a background on the reorganization of
recreation in West Grey, including the development of Terms of Reference for
Committees of Council; importance of staff presence to mitigate liability and
provide a safe environment; and building an enhanced level of service and
improved quality of life.

The Manager of Community Services presented the recreation budgets to the
Committee. It was noted that the types of programming would not be geared to
compete with the private sector. It was suggested that the current draft budget
may be beyond the scope for 2019 and instead may need to be considered for a
phased-in approach. Discussions ensued on development of a Recreation
Strategy, which could be completed in house versus a Recreation Master Plan,
which typically requires a consultant to complete. Council would need to provide
the direction for the Recreation Strategy. The Manager provided details on
enhancements to the existing camp and aquatics programs considered as part of
the budget, such as offering more trips, consideration of specialty type camps,
offering before and after care, etc. Discussions ensued on the importance of
volunteers, including providing orientation and skill building.

The Committee took a break at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

The recreation facilities budgets were reviewed. Discussions ensued on the
replacement of the exhaust hood at the concession booth at the Neustadt Arena.
A letter will be sent to the Neustadt Lions to engage in further discussions
regarding the exhaust hood with the Manager of Community Services and the
Facility Manager. It was questioned whether the building maintenance included
$4,000 to $6,000 for kitchen, doorways. Discussions ensued on trails and the
municipality's role, including whether a portion of the funding for parks should be directed to trails for items such as signage and maintenance of existing trails without enhancements. Staff was directed to report back on trails. Another suggestion was to review scheduling at our facilities in order to maximize usage and efficiencies. The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act listing on annual facility reporting will be provided to Council.

The Committee broke for lunch at 12:20 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

The Reserve Schedules and Grants to Organization will be provided at a future budget meeting for review.

Further discussions ensued on the increased part-time staff included as part of the recreation programming budget. It was suggested that the focus be on maintaining existing programs for this year. It was also noted that any changes to scheduling/hours of operation for facilities should be done in conjunction with advance communication with the public.

The Manager of Community Services was directed to bring back a work plan based on the following:
- Risk mitigation during events
- Focus on volunteer usage and skills enhancement of volunteers
- Prioritize existing program with future development of new programming
- Focus on 2019 as time to develop a vision of recreation with Council

It was noted that the Glenelg Hall requires widening of doors and the appliances need to be put back into the kitchen.

The Committee took a break at 3:45 p.m. and reconvened at 3:55 p.m.

The recreation capital budget was reviewed. It was questioned whether the Durham Ballpark stairs could be scaled back and that a motion sensor light could be installed temporarily shining towards the existing stairs. It was decided to defer the stair project and transfer $10,000 to reserve for the Durham Ballpark stairs. It was decided to defer the paving project at the Normanby Arena and instead transfer $25,000 to reserve for potentially paving next year.

It was suggested that once the 2019 budget is completed that the next budget plan be developed on a three year basis.
Adjournment
Townsend-Hergert, Resolved that, we do now adjourn at 4:30 p.m., to meet again on January 181, 2019, 9:00 a.m., or at the call of the Mayor.

Carried.

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Christine Robinson, Mayor  Mark Turner, Clerk