

Hello,

The increase of the cost to go for a swim from \$2 up to \$5 is unreasonable! Kids need to have this activity available to them at the lowered cost to keep them active and out of trouble during the summer months. Costs of everything have gone up so much-please keep this activity at the lowered cost to tell our youth that they matter to our community and that our municipality wants them to have something fun to do this summer, at an affordable price.

Thanks for hearing my concern

Hello Taraesa

I hope you are well,

I am with a lot of the other parents on the swim prices. It's hard to afford a big chunk like a seasons pass all at once and percentage wise it's a crazy hike from last year for a single swim. We have no free splash pad and barely even any shade at our park, no sports fields at all not even a soccer net.. There's no ymca around or any activities for youth in the area. Please bring it up with council.

Please please do something about this price increase!

Recently this year for 2024. Our Municipality of West Elgin increased the community pool swim price up to \$5.00 from \$2 for EVERY SWIM

I know personally my husband and I that both work full time and we cannot afford this.

Our daughter used that pool every day she could last year and multiple times a day. And it was financially manageable. Now with this increase and us both still working full time and with the prices of everything gone up we cannot afford her to go swimming multiple times a day even with the season pass price.

Families are not going to be able to afford this. And if the pool numbers go down then you will used that against us and say numbers are down!

Let's Face it our kids in Rodney don't have anything else in this town!

Please please please drop these prices

Families in this town cannot afford this!

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

A very concerned community member and mother,

Attention Councillor Tellier

I am writing to comment on the recent increase to daily admission to the Rodney Pool. While I, as a tax paying community member, understand that price increases exist in all

areas of service provision, this \$3 increase is cost prohibitive to many children, seniors and families in our municipality.

I am extremely disappointed to see this. With very little offered with respect to affordable recreation by this municipality, to put up further barriers to access is simply unacceptable.

My fear is that the municipality will see such a decline in pool usage due to this extreme increase, that you will eventually use poor attendance as an excuse to close the pool.

I urge you to reconsider this huge increase and look at other areas to cut costs. This community deserves better!! Our children, youth, families and seniors deserve better.

dear councillor Ryan: please see below the results of your choice of aquafit class cost of \$10 mostly for seniors compared to all around you. Please explain.

Hello:

I am a resident of Rodney and a senior and am very surprised and disappointed in the high increase in fees for the pool. I have looked forward to and enjoyed weekday mornings at aqua fit for the past 16 years.

I wonder why our Municipality found it necessary to almost double all fees when pools in Dutton, Ridgetown and Glencoe have held their fee for aqua fit at \$5 or \$6 per session. Their other fees are also almost half of the Rodney pool's fees. I understand costs have increased. They have for all of us.

Rodney has a beautiful pool and great services and staff. It's really about the only thing Rodney has to offer our residents and youth over the summer. I fear that with the increases fewer people will be able to continue using the pool.

Please reconsider this almost double increase and maybe even consider discounts for seniors and other incentives. More advertising to promote our pool would also be a big help.

I would hate to see our pool close because of lack of use due to high fees. Thank you.

Hi Taraesa,

I find it hard to understand why the pool prices have increased so much this year! I thought we were wanting the pool to be used more often! Many families cannot afford this. I would hope council would reconsider this decision!
Thank you for always being willing to listen!

Good Day, members of West Elgin Council:

I am writing to ask you to reconsider the fees being charged for open swims, lessons and aquafit. Clearly the members of the West Elgin community are finding the increases difficult to manage.

Please take into consideration that a community pool may be the only form of recreation that some families can "afford." There are many children that are not given the chance to experience summer camps, day camps or "vacations."

I also believe that children deserve the opportunity to learn basic water safety and confidence should they find themselves in a dangerous situation.

The donations for open swims from local service clubs are wonderful. Perhaps donation jars placed in the community would help to ensure that a few more of those take place.

People visiting the pool from other municipalities always remark what a beautiful facility we have. Let's take pride in what we have and work to ensure that the West Elgin pool remains a safe and affordable source of exercise and recreation for our families.

Thank you for all you do to better our community.

Hi Taraesa

I would like to add my opinion to that of many others here in Rodney about the pool increases.

I find it hard to understand why the pool prices have increased so much this year! I thought we were wanting the pool to be used more often! Many families cannot afford this. I would hope council would reconsider this decision!

Good afternoon Councillors.

I hope that you and your families are all doing well!

I have major concerns about the fee increases at the Rodney Pool, especially when taxpayers are facing unprecedented increases in the cost of living, and therefore travel to recreational sites elsewhere has become prohibitive. I have been a strong advocate of the pool for years. I met several times with our late Mayor Duncan McPhail, to discuss why we must have a vital pool and pool programming for our community. Four years ago Staff and programs were on the chopping block, owing to costs rising, and extremely poor record keeping about attendance at various levels, but especially AquaFit. Recent years have seen classes with the Pool full with up to sixteen adults there on good mornings, with smaller numbers in evenings. I lobbied hard then, and the pool has done well since.

I am aware that social media uproar has arisen, but I have been unable to find the Deputy Mayor's rebuttal online.

I have grave concerns, and wish to meet to address council asap. The entire park Revitalization process is based on the pool's continued existence. Each day that passes is another nail in the pool's, and therefore our community' spirit's coffin.

We have also done pool program price comparisons in the area.

As you know, I am a huge community supporter, and feel quite passionately about this issue.

We urge Council to act now,

Dutton may be at \$3 per person but it's at \$10 per family similar to Rodney. The family pass in Dutton is \$248.06 in Dutton and in Rodney is \$200. Ridgetown and Chatham Kent are free courtesy of generous sponsors per the article I just read.

Driving to Dutton for 1 child maybe cheaper but for a family it is the same. Are people taking into account the cost of gas to get elsewhere?

The increase certainly hurts. Has anyone asked questions? Would the municipality be open to payment plans for summer passes? Is there any club who would sponsor some family passes?

Some numbers for Chatham Kent Family drop in rates \$7.25, youth drop in \$1.50, Adult drop in \$3.25. I assume that is when it's not sponsored

The price jump for aquafit to \$10 a class from (5 or 6) is too much. It needs to be no more than \$6. You can buy 10 classes for \$30 or a season pass for \$125, which is the price of a single season pass for the pool.

I would bring the open swim for kids fee back to \$4, and again do a buy 10 for \$36 or season pass for \$125. As there is no description of what the season pass covers, I bought one and am going to aquafit classes and any other swim I want to attend. It will guarantee more money income for the pool, and most aquafit customers would buy this. If it's offered now, there would need to be a discount for the rest of the season.

I'm upset that the recreation committee made this decision re: fees for the pool and that council approved it. It is a costly mistake to think the community can help cover cost for recreation programs. That's not what and why the community needs rec programs.

If there is a financial for a specific item, then the rec committee could be hosting a fundraiser event. How was the money from the \$25,000 cemetery gift spent at the pool? On the plus side we have great lifeguards, and the pool is warm and clean. If you keep cost down, my other thought is people can sponsor a child for open swims as a "gift". Kind of like the giving tree at Christmas. Only the municipal has the information and the "gift of \$40" provides the child to attend 10 open swims. Hope to be at the meeting Monday.
