



MUNICIPALITY OF **West Elgin**

Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting

From: Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services

Date: 2020-10-08

Subject: September 2020 – Monthly Report

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services for information purposes

Purpose:

To provide West Elgin Council with an update on operations carried out during the month of September.

Background:

Utilities – Locates and water service installation kept utilities staff busy in West Elgin during the month of September. The Chestnut Street water main project in West Lorne has wrapped up, leaving the Todd Place water line replacement as the only outstanding capital project. The contractor started this project mid-month, but ran into significant issues during the first week. Municipal drawings supplied by the original developer have been found to be quite inaccurate. Therefore, when the current contractor was directional boring new water service lines in areas that were marked 'all clear', they were hitting the existing water system. Since the old water system was still in use, the contractor would have to stop the project and make repairs so residents would not be without water. This was costly and very time consuming, so the decision was made to install temporary water line for the remainder of the project. These lines are run on top of the ground and feed all homes, so crews do not have to worry about hitting the old system and time is not wasted repairing old lines. The majority of new service lines are now in and the contractor will begin installing main shortly. This project is expected to wrap up by early November.

Public Works – The application of maintenance gravel on municipal roads was completed in early September. Staff have been spot grading for potholes and washboard but the relatively dry summer conditions have left the gravel roads in good condition overall. Staff will begin fall grading to prepare for the winter season shortly. Fall grass cutting is underway and will continue into October. This insures good sightlines throughout the winter and helps reduce the effects of drifting. Staff received sand from Johnston Bros. Ltd. and blended with salt to produce 'winter sand' for road application. Once blended, it was fed onto a conveyor and stockpiled in the sand storage facility at the municipal yard. Mobile Services were in Rodney and West Lorne during the beginning of September for curb sweeping operations. This will be done again in November once the majority of leaves have fallen. Staff spent time at the landfill last month, shaping the west boundary limit and enhancing the driveway to the working face. Public works crews also completed a variety of maintenance tasks in September including ditching, tree removal, catch basin cleaning and drain repair.

Parks and Recreation – Cooler temperatures in September slowed the grass cutting and allowed staff to focus on preparing the arena for opening. Ice making began on September 18, with the first users (West Lorne Figure Skating) are scheduled for Monday October 5. It has been a very tedious job preparing for facility use, taking in to account the constantly changing COVID guidelines. Recreation staff have done a tremendous job researching provincial and public health guidelines, while creating return to use guidelines, which are specific to the facility and/or use. In addition, the pool and splash pad were closed and winterized in September, and the hanging baskets were taken for the season.

West Elgin Community Pool – 2020 Statistics

Attendance – The pool opened on July 2, was open until September 5 and had 1948 users. This breaks down to 1022 people in July, 787 in August and 139 in September. Activities offered during the season included –

- Aquafit – held twice per day and accounted for 34.3% of overall usage
- Open Swims – held twice per day and accounted for 25% of overall usage
- Family Swims – held twice per day and accounted for 25% of overall usage
- Adult/Lane Swims – held once per day and accounted for 12.5% of overall usage
- Private Rentals – held as requested and accounted for 3.2% of overall usage

Gross revenue from all programs offered this season amounted to \$5,201.90, with the monthly breakdown as follows –

- July - \$2,891.00
- August - \$1,871.10
- September - \$439.80

Note – Pool revenue was substantially lower in 2020 as a result of not being able to offer swimming lessons. This is typically where 2/3 of the pool revenue is generated.

A pool survey was developed in July and all swimmers were encouraged to fill one out. Staff requested comments on items such as cleaning, programming, staff relations or ideas for the 2021 season. Thirty two surveys were completed, with high marks given to pool staff and cleaning protocols. Additional suggestions for next season included a return to swimming lessons (which we all hope will be possible) and new equipment for Aquafit classes.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	September 2020 - Monthly Report - 2020-17-Operations Community Services.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Oct 6, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Jana Nethercott