



Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting

From: Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services

Date: 2020-12-17

Subject: November 2020 – Monthly Report

Recommendation:

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

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of operations carried out during the month of November.

Background:

Parks and Recreation

- The main focus of recreation staff in November was in the arena. The majority of traditional users have returned to the facility and new users continue to sign ice rental agreements. Factoring in all the additional cleaning/COVID related requirements, staff have a busy schedule which spans Monday – Sunday. Adult skate times and public skate times were also introduced into the schedule this month. Numbers have remained low for adult times during the week, but it did not take long for public skate times to become full. Participants are asked to pre-register, and recent time slots have been at capacity.
- Interviews were held for the parks & recreation operator position, and the newest member of West Elgin's team, Michael Aers, will be starting with the municipality in early December. Michael brings arena knowledge with him from his current position and years of park and ground maintenance gained during his time with Ontario Provincial Parks.
- Preparations were under way for the first annual Festival of Lights to be held December 4 & 5 at the Rodney Pool. Recreation staff worked in conjunction with volunteers from West Lorne Optimist and Rodney Kiwanis to provide a holiday light show in lieu of the traditional parades held each year. A more detailed report will follow in the December monthly update.

Public Works

- Staff completed the culvert replacement and drain repair on McMurchy Line east of Graham Road
- Equipment was moved from there to the Crinan Community Hall where public works operators from West Elgin worked in conjunction with operators from Dutton-Dunwich to construct a new parking lot for the hall as per their request to the respective Councils earlier this year.

- Graders and drags were used whenever conditions were fit to keep gravel roads in good shape before freeze up. Rain during the second half of November has left gravel roads and shoulders very soft. A few days of freezing temperatures would be of great benefit before any accumulating snow is received.
- Annual safety and service were completed on all trucks and remaining snow gear was installed. Salter units were calibrated, equipment was greased and sidewalk machines were prepared for use. All that was left was the annual exercise of trying to fit everything inside under one roof.
- Public works staff assisted the utilities department with a new water service install and water line repair.
- Staff installed a new drain on Finney Street in West Lorne and completed ditching on Thomson Line.
- The second and final round of leaf pickup was completed on November 23 and 24.

Utilities

- Capital water main replacement in Todd Place wrapped up on schedule in early November. The contractor will return in early spring to complete any final touch ups to yards as necessary.
- A new water service was installed on Graham road between Silver clay and Talbot Line.
- Water line repair was completed on King Street in Rodney.
- Locates continued to be heavy during November as contractors pushed on with work due to favorable conditions.
- The departments' inspection camera was sent away to Toronto for repairs. This is an invaluable piece of equipment when it comes to diagnosing issues with sewers or drains and is used by the public works department as well.
- Staff also attended a residence on Furnival Road due to a sewer backup complaint. The issue had subsided by the time operators got there, but an inspection of the sewer lateral showed signs of a possible tree root problem in the area of the cleanout. This will be scheduled for maintenance in December.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	November 2020 - Monthly Report - 2020-26-Operations Community Services.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Dec 15, 2020

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

Jana Nethercott