



MUNICIPALITY OF **West Elgin**

Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting

From: Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services

Date: 2021-08-19

Subject: Monthly Operations Report – July 2021

Recommendation:

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

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on operational activities carried out during July 2021

Background:

Utilities

- Locate requests continued to keep the utilities department busy during July.
- Staff assisted with completion of the fish cleaning station by installing a water meter and connection the lines.
- Installed a meter pit and connected a new customer on Marsh Line.
- Assisted planning department by researching servicing requests and providing information to potential developers.
- staff helped to address flooding concerns after another series of large rain events in early July.

Parks and Recreation

- Warm weather and frequent rainfall kept the grass growing steadily in July. Parks staff are cutting all areas on a weekly schedule.
- Crews completed a cleanup of driftwood on the municipal beach, which has been quite busy due to the hot weather we have been experiencing.
- Outdoor programming is in full swing with soccer, baseball and lawn bowling leagues all running. Other recreation features such as the tennis and volleyball courts, skateparks, splashpad, and all green space were well used in July
- Summer day camp at the recreation center began the first week of July and will run until the end of August.
- The first two sessions of swimming lessons were completed in July and pool operations are running smoothly. Sessions 3 and 4 will run as scheduled and registration numbers have been very positive. Pool users are happy with the programming that is being offered summer and hopefully we will be able to return to a full slate of lessons in the 2022 season.

- Canada Day events ran as scheduled on Saturday July 31. These included free swimming at the pool, hand painting at the Miller Park pavilion and a free drive-thru BBQ which was served throughout the day in the arena parking lot. The events were enjoyed by many residents of West Elgin and staff would like to thank all those who helped to make the day successful. All costs associated with the day's activities were covered by the Canada Day grant received earlier this year.
- Capital repairs to the pavilion at PGTP got underway in July. The old chipboard ceiling had been removed and the electrician was there to run wiring for new lights and receptacles. The metal ceiling will be installed mid-August, at which time the electrician will return to install the lighting.
- The company that was planning on Cairn restoration in the spring notified the municipality in July that they were extremely backed up due to the covid shutdown and they would not be able to start until fall at the earliest. Staff reached out to other businesses to see if there was someone who could complete the work earlier and found a company that is willing to start the job mid-September (weather pending). Hopefully this will work out and restoration work, including the new gates, will be completed this fall.

Public Works

- Maintenance gravel operations were completed in July and all roads have been graded and dust suppressant applied.
- Roadside mowing operations are in full swing, along with hand trimming around signs and guiderail
- Public works staff worked with Hurricane Hydrovac Services to flush and camera various storm drains in Rodney and West Lorne. This is being done in areas affected the most during recent rains to ensure there are no blockages or other issues which may hold water in the system.
- Operators assisted with repairs to municipal drain components as well as private tile issues which affected the roads and created a safety concern. Localized ditching operations have been carried out to create better roadside drainage and washouts caused by the recent heavy rains were repaired.
- The dying poplar trees were removed along the north side of Munroe Street (adjacent to the West Lorne HUB) to eliminate the possibility of one falling into the parking area.
- The tandem axle dump truck and roadside mower which were replaced as part of this year's capital program were put up for auction on GovDeals. Both units exceeded the reserve bid and were sold, but the person who purchased the mower did not pay within the required time frame and the unit has been re-listed.
- Final servicing was completed on the fish cleaning station and the shelter was built. The unit was opened to the public mid-July and has been well used over the last several weeks. The 3000-gallon holding tank that was installed to store the fish waste filled more quickly than expected and staff have adjusted the fish cleaning stations' water system to increase storage time. Staff would also like to thank users of the station for helping to keep the area clean between the municipality's regular maintenance and cleaning.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Monthly Operations Update - July 2021 - 2021-34-Operations Community Services.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Aug 17, 2021

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

Jana Nethercott