



MUNICIPALITY OF **West Elgin**

Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting

From: Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services

Date: 2021-10-14

Subject: Monthly Operations Update – September 2021

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 a brief update on municipal operations during the month of September.

Background:

Utilities

- Warm weather kept locate requests steady during the month of September
- Staff were called to a water break on William Street in West Lorne when a contractor struck an abandoned water service.
- Crews worked with VanBree Drainage to rectify water issues which were discovered during the Rodney reconstruction project
- Staff completed building maintenance projects including installing trim in the new Council chambers, washroom repair at the library and assisted with obtaining roofing quotes
- Staff arranged for/assisted with the annual elevator inspection at the West Lorne Complex
- With COVID restrictions easing, home visits are being scheduled to complete water meter repair/replacement.
- The utilities department has been handling many servicing requests for new development and assisting in the review process for projects already underway
- Utilities staff assisted with relocation of the municipal office

Public Works

- Ditch cleanout was completed on Gray Line and Linden Road
- Staff provided traffic control through the night for a fatal motor vehicle collision on Johnston Line between Furnival Road and Morrison Road
- Staff provided traffic control for the Rodney Agricultural Society's parade
- Tree removal and cleanup was completed at various locations
- Fall grading started on gravel roads as weather permitted
- Roadside mowing was carried out throughout the month, with one last top cut to be completed in early October.

- Crews filled in the old brick fire well which was located behind the town hall in Rodney. This was done for safety reasons and to ensure the water main which runs adjacent to this area would not freeze.
- Crews investigated water seeping from the road surface on Pioneer Line west of Furnival Road and found a plugged drain tile. This was flushed to remove the blockage and the road dried immediately
- Staff responded to resident calls and monitored flooding which occurred with the heavy rain on September 22.
- Operators assisted with grounds maintenance at the Port Glasgow Trailer Park
- Public Works staff assisted with relocation of the municipal office
- Interviews were held for the open public works operator position and a candidate was selected who will start on October 14

Parks and Recreation

- Grass cutting and fall yard work continues at local parks and sports fields as weather permits
- Washrooms at Miller Park and the marina have been closed for the season; however, staff are opening Miler Park washrooms for some events which are still being held outdoors
- The splashpad has been closed for the season and is awaiting winterization
- West Lorne minor soccer came to a successful end with their final cup day being held in September
- Ice installation at the arena went smoothly and the first skaters were on the ice September 22. Due to vaccine status screening requirements, a security firm was retained to provide personnel during operating hours. We feel this is working well as there have been minimal issues between patrons and arena staff. A part time arena operator was also hired, as in past years, to supplement fulltime shifts once the facility is back to full capacity.
- The official opening of the fish cleaning station took place on Saturday September 18. The station worked well this summer and was very busy. Staff waited until season end to complete topsoil and seeding due to the high foot traffic. The unit will be winterized shortly
- Nature walks continued in Joe's bush during September with 15 – 20 people attending on a regular basis. These will continue into the fall season as weather permits.
- Tai Chi took place at the Miller Park pavilion throughout the month
- Events taking place at the Rodney Recreation Centre included a vaccine clinic Sept. 30, voting for the Federal Election Sept. 20 and the Agricultural Society's drive through dinner on Sept. 16.
- Recreation plans for October include a Halloween themed walk through Joe's bush and a focus on helping get user groups (shuffleboard, pickleball, cards etc....) back in the Rodney Rec Centre. An outdoor market is also being planned by West Lorne community members which will be held in Miler Park on October 23.
- Organizers of the 'Night Market' being held on December 4 in downtown Rodney wish to thank Council for their support of this event. Our Clerk and Operations Co-Ordinator have been attending preliminary meetings and further information will be provided once plans begin to firm up.

Report Approval Details

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| Document Title: | Monthly Operations Update - September 2021 - 2021-49-Operations Community Services.docx |
| Attachments: | |
| Final Approval Date: | Oct 12, 2021 |

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

Jana Nethercott