



MUNICIPALITY OF **West Elgin**

Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting
From: Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services
Date: 2022-06-09
Subject: Monthly Operations Update

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 update on operations carried out during the month of May

Background:

Public Works

- Crews worked on pothole patching as weather permitted
- Assisted the Drainage Superintendent with locating buried infrastructure
- Sweeping contractor was in West Elgin to complete cleaning of curb & gutter and bridge decks. Municipal staff also completed sweeping of asphalt aprons in rural areas
- Operators began preparing gravel roads for the application of dust suppressant which started during the week of May 16.
- Gravel shoulders along county roads were also graded during the month of May
- Large item collection and yard waste pickup were completed mid-month. A special report is being prepared regarding large item collection, as there continued to be many issues with the program this year.
- Roadside grass cutting started after the long weekend and will continue throughout the summer.
- Staff worked on rehabilitation of mined areas within Kearns Pit by leveling and spreading topsoil. The parks department assisted by seeding the area.
- Crews responded to tree damage from strong winds on two separate occasions.
- Provided traffic control for the cruise night held in downtown Rodney and the Mother's Day Road race.
- Staff handled a large tote of mystery fluid which was left in the middle of Gray Line. It was brought back to the public works yard, tested by safety clean and arrangements were made though the St. Thomas hazardous waste facility for its disposal.

Utilities

- Meter reads were completed in May
- Staff worked on re-reads, meter repairs and meter changes

- Utilities staff, with help from public works, installed a new water service at the Rodney fairgrounds for the WECHC Community Garden project
- Staff were busy with new locate requests as well as the fibre project which is on-going south of Rodney
- The balance of seasonal water users were turned on in May, including trailer parks, lawn bowling, marina, etc.
- Staff coordinated repair of the flat roof above the West Lorne Library. The contractor did identify a concern in the area in question. Staff will monitor and schedule water damage repair once we are sure the problem has been fixed

Parks and Recreation

- Grass cutting was in full swing in May with the unusually warm temperatures
- Soccer fields were marked out, painted and are being maintained
- Adult baseball has started at Miller Park and diamonds are prepared 3 days per week
- Washrooms at Miller Park and the Marina were opened for the season and are cleaned daily.
- Hanging baskets were delivered in late May for Rodney and West Lorne. Baskets in Rodney were temporarily hung from the same location as last year (high arm), but new brackets have been ordered which will lower them to the same height as West Lorne. Sponsorship signs have been ordered and should arrive shortly.
- Staff installed new 6x6 posts on the West Lorne town sign (Graham south) before the horticultural society planted flowers. All flower locations in Rodney and West Lorne are being watered by the parks department.
- The splash pad was cleaned and opened to the public on May 30. West Elgin's splash pad is non-recirculating, which means it always utilizes fresh water. Temperature is not regulated and will be consistent with municipal water temperature in the lines.
- The hiring process was completed to fill an operators position within the parks department and West Elgin's newest staff member started on May 30.
- The joint Sports Literacy program held in conjunction with Elgin County library hosted its second session in May. Activities were also offered for Mental Health Awareness week early in the month
- Registration for swimming lessons opened this month and based on early numbers, some minor scheduling changes may be required to accommodate more younger students
- Preparations are being finalized for Canada Day celebrations which will take place at Miller Park on July 1. The day's events will include opening remarks from local dignitaries, games and crafts for children of all ages, multiple food vendors on site, live music throughout the evening and fireworks at dusk

Note – The municipality has always purchased fireworks for July 1 at Miller Park and the August long weekend at the Marina. After the order was placed earlier this year, it was confirmed that there would be NO fish fry at the lake this year. Council will need to decide on what they would like to see done with the fireworks intended for this event. They can either be used on Canada Day to make the show larger, set off at the marina in August as intended (without the fish fry) or used at another location on the Civic long weekend.

Recreation Program May Stats

Mental Health Week May 2-6, 2022

Program	Date	Time	Attendance	Notes
Mindfulness with Sherry Lynne	May 2, 2022	6-7 p.m.	0	Program was cancelled due to facilitator.
Nature Walk West Lorne	May 3	6-7 p.m.	0	Cancelled due to weather.
Nature Walk Rodney	May 4	6-7 p.m.	0	
Job Search with Jenn	May 3	9-10 a.m.	0	
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Happiness 101 with Rob	May 6	2:30-4:00 p.m.	3	

Sports Literacy

Program	Dates	Time	Age group	Program Type	Attendance
Sports Literacy West Lorne	April 4	4:30-6:00 p.m.	6-11 years	Fundamentals of Running	8
Sports Literacy Rodney	April 7	4:30-6:00 p.m.	2-5 years	Fundamentals of Running	4
Sports Literacy West Lorne	May 10	4:30-6:00 p.m.	6-11 year	Fundamentals of Jumping	0
Sports Literacy Rodney	May 12	4:30-6:00 p.m.	2-5 years	Fundamentals of Jumping	2

Nature Walks

Program	Dates	Time	Program type	Attendance
Nature Walk	May 18, 2022	10-11 a.m.	Gardening Tips for the month of May	8
Nature walks	May 25, 2022	10-11 a.m.	Effects of begin in nature on one's health	10

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Monthly Operations Update - May 2022 - 2022-52-Operations Community Services.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Jun 6, 2022

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

Jana Nethercott