



December 21, 2022 Regular Council Meeting

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Addition to the Consent Agenda Item 6.1.3 Questions received from Council seeking additional information and the corresponding responses provided by staff regarding the December 21, 2022 Council agenda items.

Responses Appreciated Prior to Meeting

7.2.2 Danby Delegation

Has this property already been purchased by the delegate or is the intent that they are gauging the level of support prior to purchasing? Is the delegation meant for information purposes or is there a decision that the delegate is looking for?

Staff understand that the property has not been purchased by the delegate at this time. It might be most helpful if Council asked the delegate directly what their purpose is for appearing before Council

9.2.1 Report FIN-2022-032 – Third Quarter Financial Report – 2022
-would it be possible to get more timely reports in 2023?

The earliest that these reports can be provided to Council are within a couple of months after the quarter end is complete (i.e. 3rd quarter relates to financial information to September 30th). Realistically, the 3rd quarter report can be provided to Council by the end of November, at the earliest. Month-end journal entries are typically processed by the end of the following month (i.e. September 30th journal entries are processed by October 31st). These quarterly financial reports also require analysis by finance and the senior leadership team prior to being provided to Council to ensure that the trends are in line with expectations/budgets. Given the significant number of restrictive deadlines in the finance department and the limited resources (i.e. grant agreement reporting, insurance reporting, provincial and federal legislative reporting, financial reporting, payroll/benefits reporting, audit deadlines, budget reporting, etc.), there are times that these reports are delayed and not prioritized when compared to the other restrictive deadlines.



-what is the date of the column titled YTD Actuals in Schedule A?

January 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022

-p. 120 tennis court rentals shows no rental revenue; what would be the reason for this?

Given that there were ongoing discussions with the former tennis club, and the uncertainty associated with when the tennis courts would be rehabilitated, the tennis courts were not rented in 2022. Unfortunately final drawings took longer than anticipated and the Township was also required to wait for approvals from the GRCA. This is why initially we didn't take in rentals, for fear of construction and rentals overlapping. The courts were made available to the public so there could at least be some use.

9.2.2 Report FIN-2022-036 -Annual Indexing of Development Charges – Is the increase of 15.6% in line with other municipalities in the region? Does bill 23 have any impact on the municipalities ability to adjust development charges annually?

Yes, the increase is in line with Section 7 of Ontario Regulation 82/98 of the Development Charges Act, 1997 which other municipalities must also be compliant with. The 15.6% indexing factor is also in line with the County of Wellington's indexing factor recently communicated to all lower tier municipalities in the County. Bill 23 indicates that for any development charge (DC) by-laws passed after January 1, 2022, the rate of the DC must be indexed over 5 years. The Township's DC by-law was passed in 2019. The Township has also received confirmation from the Township's DC consultant that "The More Homes Built Faster Act does not affect the indexing of a D.C. by-law. As such, what is being proposed by the Township is still compliant."

9.2.3 Report FIN-2022-037 – 2023 Grant Application Program

-there are two applications that do not meet the criteria and one that partially does not meet the criteria. Is it a standard practice to include such applications in the full amount in the tally table?

Yes, typically in the past staff have included the organization's total grant request in the table in the Report for Council's consideration. That way Council has a complete picture of what requests were received, which ones did not meet criteria and why. That way if



Council ever receives a question as to why a funding request was not successful, they have the information as to why.

-p.141 regarding “This would then permit the opportunity for the ratepayers of the Township to receive benefit from the public investments made to date.”; please explain the benefit of this because now the access facility would be levy funded and not from parkland reserves.

What is meant is that if the funds came from this suggested allocation (i.e. donations to the lake), they would not be required from the capital levy.

-should grant funding be considered for PLCA I will be moving that a condition of any grant funding would be to dredge the waterway in front of the public access as a first priority

Ok. Staff has not been provide with a planned dredging activities by the association for 2023.

- Regarding Ellis Chapel – It is not quite clear what the \$500 request is intended to be put towards. Is it for the lawnmower or to be put towards preservation of a historic building? Even if the organization is considered to be religious – if the intent is to apply for a grant to preserve historic value, is the religious nature still relevant?

The grant application indicates “The Township’s funding support would aid in the preservation of the chapel and its grounds so that the community can appreciate it. The chapel received a setback earlier in the summer when our lawn mower/tractor was stolen from our shed located on the grounds of the chapel. We were able to recover costs from insurance, less the deductible, however this is a significant cost for an organization which operates on free will donations and minimal revenue from weddings and special events. With the loss of revenue and donations due to the pandemic, it will take time to recover fully.”

The wording of Council’s Policy is outlined in Note A of the report.

- Regarding Scientists in the School – does this organization have its principal address in the township? If not, given that Aberfoyle School will be the beneficiary of the grant, could this be considered as an exception?

The mailing address included in the grant application submission is a Township mailing address.



- Puslinch Lake Grant Request – there is an excellent suggestion about utilizing a portion of the grant request to fund the puslinch lake pedestrian access – however, the PLCA does not own the land, nor would they be contracting the work where the pedestrian access would be established. Just clarifying the logistics of this - The pedestrian access would be paid by cash in lieu, then there would be an internal transfer from operating back into cash in lieu so that effectively the cash in lieu balance remains unaffected?

Yes this is the intent on how this could be facilitated.

I have one question regarding the correspondence PLCA. In regard to the statement:

“Doreen Tschanz spoke of 2 Hespeler families who rented sites on the shoreline and property. One was the Pinder Family and her friends the Crawford Family had the more westerly site. We water skied and swam off the dock. Each had a dock and trailer. It was a great spot. Road access came off Concession 1 and the road was such that her friend could drive his Corvette to the site.”

Are these two properties owned by the GRCA or privately owned?

More details will need to be provided to clarify the locations being referenced.

9.2.4 Report FIN-2022-038 – 2023 Proposed Changes to Employee Benefits

-the report cites a 6.8% increase for the benefit; what is the overall Manulife budget increase from 2022 to 2023?

Based on the 2023 renewal report received, this represents approximately \$15K annual increase from 2022 to 2023.

9.3.1 Report ADM-2022-073 82 Queen Street

We recently passed a by-law which permits detached accessory residential units. Does designating this property have any effect on the ability to construct a detached accessory dwelling unit at this address?

In general, it is not likely that a detached ARU would affect the heritage attributes and so the heritage designation would likely not affect the ability to construct a detached ARU.



9.3.3 Report ADM-2022-071 – Acting Mayor Schedule in the event of the Mayor’s absence or vacancy

-it should be clarified whether it includes assuming the Mayor’s duties at County committees and Council

It will be clarified in the motion that Councillor Sepulis is appointed as the Alternate Member to the Upper-Tier for the 2022 to 2026 term of Council as approved by Council Resolution No. 2022-397 and the Acting Mayor schedule does not supersede this appointment.

9.3.4 Report ADM-2022-072 – Mandatory Preconsultation Bylaw

- prior to this bylaw – the pre-consultation fee would be credited to the future application fee. Are there any open pre-consultations that paid that fee with the understanding that it would be credited towards their application? If so, would the credit towards application still apply to those open preconsultations?
Yes, staff will include this information when we send notice to the existing open pre-consultation files.
- Would this by-law and the requirement for pre-consultation also apply to plan of subdivision or condominium?

No, the County of Wellington administers subdivision and condominium applications.

9.3.5 Report ADM-2022-073 – Update on Guelph Junction Railway Operations and Communications

-what is the timing of removing other areas of stockpiled ties?

GJR provided the following response:

In 2015, GJR started a project of disposing of ties replaced. This was not done in previous years under different management for reason not known to me or Les.. GJR now tries to “double disposal counts”, meaning if 1500 ties were changed we would also add 1500 heritage scrap ties (these heritage ties were left by other service provides that GJR has inherited) to the disposal for the year. We have a few scrap ties left at Wellington 34 Corwhin, which will be disposed of next year (2023) with the tie program. There was not enough there to justify the costs of only a 1/3rd load to transport to Quebec. We do



need to be cost-effective in with tie removals. We still plan on the continuation of the cleanup of the small bits and pieces. This will be an ongoing process.

-will move to have staff dialogue with the GJR to relocate storage tracks to City of Guelph

In terms of clarification, is the intent to have storage take place in Guelph or to have the siding removed and relocated to Guelph?

9.3.6 Report ADM-2022-074 – Annual Township Communications and Engagement

-I seem to recall that the subject of advertising externally, to garner more exposure to the availability of our facilities for rental, was discussed at Council over two meetings and that the results would be provided in a report. If this was the case when would we receive the report?

Staff have prepared external advertisements, however, they have not all been published. In May, the GuelphToday Community Profile was launched and the first of the three advertisements was posted in June. When the Municipal Representative position was created staff postponed the two additional identified advertisements until the Municipal Representative position is hired. The intention is to report on the program as a whole when the advertising program is completed.

The outstanding elements of this program are as follows:

- *An Advertisement for the Rink Summer Rentals*
- *An Advertisement for Puslinch Community Centre Rentals*
Spotlight Article