



STAFF REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Report No: CS-2021-09

June 23, 2021

From: Anne Leduc – Director of Community Services

RE: Community Services June Workplan

Recommended Motion:

THAT the Committee of the Whole receives Staff Report No. CS-2021-09

Background / Analysis:

The table enclosed at the end of this report shows the progress on the various projects undertaken by the Community Services Department.

ADMINISTRATION

Beautification

- Planting of the flower beds and boxes through-out the Township has been completed. The work is done in partnership with the Maxville & District Horticultural Society for areas in the western portion of the Township and the Public Works Department staff that waters the plants.

Business & Community Awards Gala

- Staff has met to discuss hosting a virtual format of the Business & Community Awards instead of the traditional Gala. We are presently investigating how other communities have held these awards or if they were simply postponed until 2022. Staff will bring back more information to Council on this subject.

COVID-19

- Staff has been keeping abreast of the information forwarded by the different ministries and Public Health and sharing the information with the different users in our facilities.

- At the time of writing this report, details regarding organized indoor activities under Step 3 of the Province’s Reopening Plan are still vague;
 - The Tim Hortons Dome will reopen respecting the gathering limits for each specific activity;
 - Staff is preparing for the installation of ice at the Maxville & District Sports Complex by ensuring all of the inspections and equipment is in place;
 - GSP Staff is supporting the COVID-19 clinics and working with the Engineers on the refurbishment of the facility.

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic – The Eastern Ontario Health Unit has confirmed that they will be using the Glengarry Sports Palace’s arena slab from now until September 1st, 2021. EOHU Staff has informed the Township that they expect that mass clinics will be completed by that time. The Glengarry Sports Palace’s Community Hall will remain available for use by the EOHU after September 1st, 2021.

Engineering Plans – Barry Bryan is preparing Class C budget estimates based on the plans that were presented to Council at the last Committee of the Whole.

Health and Safety Meeting – The Recreation Staff met in late May to go over each facility’s Health and Safety Inspection Reports and to discuss any issue that may arise in the workplace. Minutes are taken and posted to the Health and Safety board in each facility. The next meeting is scheduled for June 28th, 2021.

Staffing

- The Recreation Facilities are still closed to the public as per the Provincial and Public Health directives and are being operated with the complement of staff required to maintain the specific level of service for each facility.
- The Parks section is running with the level of staff required to support summer activities such as grass cutting, sports field maintenance and will be moving to lining and increased grass cutting requirements once organized sports activities are permitted (expected to be around July 5th).

COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES

Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee

- Participated in the June 7th Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee.
- The Blue Plaques will be installed for the July 5th meeting.

Community Development Committee

- The Community Development Committee met on May 26th and updates were given on the Development and Marketing Strategy as well as the Education and Lagoon upgrades portfolios.

- Information to vacant property owners was sent earlier in June to inform them of the creation of the Development Advisory Team and support for the development process of properties in North Glengarry.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Canada Day Activities – Following on the last Committee of the Whole, staff contacted Celebrate Canada regarding their preferred format for events. They responded that in order to respect the COVID-19 environment, virtual events were a preference. Celebrate Canada did inform us that we had an option to cancel all activities and return the funds to the organization. The Township staff continued with the virtual option given that it was already working with two groups to organization virtual musical celebrations that fell within the envelope of funding.

Regarding fireworks, staff contacted the Eastern Ontario Health Unit and their response was: “We have concerns that such activities have the potential to draw large crowds. According to the current Roadmap to Reopen, the gathering limits on July 1st will be limited to a maximum of 10 people. It is our recommendation that you only take on this challenge if you have the necessary resources to prevent gatherings and safely disperse groups that will exceed the gathering limits”. We had a phone consultation with the EOHU which is familiar with the layout of Island Park and their concern was that there are no controlled access points to the park (open layout) and that it would be impossible for the Township to enforce the gathering limits. Staff also contacted two accredited fireworks organizations and both indicated that they were not taking on any additional clients (in fact they had only taken on clients that confirmed that they would go ahead with the fireworks or with a full up-front payment).

Soccer – The Glengarry Soccer League has an expected start date of July 5th, dependant on moving to Step 2 of the Province’s Reopening Plan.

Summer Camp – Summer Camp is expected to start on July 5th and run until August 27th, 2021. The camp registration is now for the waitlist only. As in the past, the participants will have access to the Tim Hortons Dome and the Glengarry Sports Palace in addition to the facilities at Island Park.

Youth Unlimited – Township Staff is working with the Youth Unlimited group to offer half-day camps at the Maxville & District Sports Complex. Details should be finalized soon.

Yoga Programming – The Spring virtual session concluded on June 5th and will start up again in the Fall.

FACILITIES

Glengarry Sports Palace

- Finalized the painting of the north west and north east stairwells.
- Performed seasonal maintenance of the ball fields.

- Over-seeded and fertilized the soccer field.
- Accompanied the Fire Prevention Officer during the fire inspection of the Alexandria Library. Fixed identified issues to ensure compliance for this space.
- Support COVID-19 vaccination clinics.

Island Park

- Health and Safety inspections were done for May 2021.
- The Township’s Geese Mitigation Program came to an end at the end of May.
- The removal of aquatic vegetation at Mill Pond started on June 15th, 2021. Staff from the Public Works department is performing the removal using the harvester and shares the information regarding quantities of vegetation removed and species captures / released is forwarded to Recreation Staff on a daily basis.
- The Eastern Ontario Health Unit performed its kitchen inspection for Gary Shepherd Hall and the Sandfield Center.
- The Eastern Ontario Health Unit performed its yearly inspection of the Island Park Splash Pad.
- Grass was cut and brush was cleared at Fireman’s Island.
- Soccer fields are being maintained with an expected start of soccer activities on July 5th, 2021.
- Picnic tables are being painted at Island Park.
- Sanding of the gazebos has started.

2021 Mill Pond Water Analysis Results

Geometric Mean of 5 samples E.coli (cfu/100 mL) *		
Date	Result	Comment
27 May 2021	21	None
01 June 2021	10	None
08 June 2021	24	None
16 June 2021	194	None
* CFU stands for 'Colony Forming Units' and refers to the number of viable bacterial cells in a sample per unit of volume		
± E. coli guidelines for fresh water beaches between 100 and 200 cfu/100 mL varying depending on the swimming-associated risk level deemed acceptable		

Maxville & District Sports Complex

- Health and Safety inspections were done for May 2021.
- The painting of showers and dressing rooms has been completed.
- Soccer fields are being maintained with an expected start of soccer activities on July 5th, 2021 and the ball diamond was fertilized, seeded and is dragged regularly.
- New mesh has been installed on the four nets on the full size field.
- Caution strips were painted on the stairs in the stands on the arena side.

- The old reservoir was filled and covered over.
- Snow-breakers were attached to the roof over the front entrance and the HVAC unit.
- New panic bars and locks were added to the doors leading into the compressor room.

Tim Hortons Dome

- Health and Safety inspections were done for May 2021.
- Repairs were done to the Viking Fire Suppression system at the Tim Hortons Dome on June 8th.

Other facilities / assets

- Recreation Staff met with Public Works staff to discuss a plan to improve Centennial Park in Maxville. The Township was approached by Trees Canada who indicated that a sponsor specifically requested for trees to be planted in Maxville. If this project is approved by Trees Canada, planting would be done in the Fall. Staff has already brought a garbage receptacle and picnic tables to the location and a garbage / recycling combo has been ordered for this space.
- Public Works assisted the Glen Robertson Recreation Association with the removal of two trees that had grown in the municipal ditch and were damaging the fence line.
- Staff is preparing the soccer fields located at the Recreation Associations for a possible start on July 5th.

OTHER

Community Improvement Plan / Regional Incentives Program

- Staff is continuing to promote the CIP with qualifying North Glengarry property owners.

Meetings (virtual or otherwise) – Staff has participated in the:

- Township values exercises.
- Alexandria Skate Park meetings.
- Eastern Ontario Training Board Employer One Survey Results and the Labour Market Information Meeting.
- Regional Economic Analyst Community of Practice Meeting.
- Public Works – EOHU Health and Safety Talk.

Other Economic Development Activities – Staff:

- Provided the Maxville and Alexandria Chambers with information regarding various government programs to share with their membership.
- Worked with South Glengarry Economic Development staff and a representative from the Glengarry Pioneer Museum on the Glengarry Virtual Historical Driving Tour. More information is available at <https://glengarrypioneermuseum.ca/event-calendar/#id=105&cid=1745&wid=601>.
- Shared information with businesses and community groups regarding grants and funding opportunities.

- Met on location with property owners regarding applications to the Community Improvement and Regional Incentive Programs.

Press Releases / Videos / Ads

- Prepared press release regarding the Glengarry Pioneer Museum Audio Tour and the Weed harvesting at Mill Pond.

Website, Social Media and traditional media

- Township staff has participated in training for a new Form Building module for the website. Integration of the new module should be completed by the end of June.
- Posted information to Facebook
- Created new web pages and updated website as needed.

COMMENTS

This report is presented for information purposes only.

Alternatives:

None

Financial Implications:

None

Attachments & Relevant Legislation:

- Community Services June Workplan

Others Consulted:

None

Reviewed and Approved by:
Sarah Huskinson, CAO/Clerk