



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Parks & Recreation Services

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Paul Anthony, Director Parks & Recreation Services

Date to Council: October 12, 2021

Report Number: PRS- 2021-15

Subject: Municipal Modernization Fund 2019 Project Reallocation Request

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That the project allocation of \$65,000 to the Town Hall Expansion Project - Installation of an electric vehicle charging station at the municipal campus, be removed from the approved Municipal Modernization Fund 2019 project list;

And that \$45,000 be reallocated to the Community LED Sign Project;

And further that Council add to the list of approved projects in the Municipal Modernization Fund 2019, the Clerk Services Review Project with an allocation of \$20,000;

And furthermore that Administration continue to work in partnership with Essex Power researching grant opportunities with the goal of installing electric vehicle charging stations throughout municipal properties.

Background

In 2019, the Town received unsolicited, one-time funding through the Provincial Municipal Modernization Fund (MMF) in the amount of \$620,201. Generally, the funds were to be used for projects to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of municipal services and enhance citizen access to services. Accordingly, Administration prepared a report recommending various projects for which the funds could be allocated by Council.

At the August 13, 2019 Regular Meeting of Council, Council considered Report CAO-2019-05, Municipal Modernization Fund Allocation and passed the following motion (RCM-249/19):

That Council endorse the overall expenditure plan outlined in Attachment 2 to Report CAO-2019-05 for the one-time Municipal Modernization Fund received from the Province of Ontario;

And that Town Administration be authorized to proceed with implementation of the expenditure plan subject to Council approval of specific items as required;

And further that Council authorize Municipal Modernization Fund expenditures of up to \$50,000 for the purchase, installation and annual support and maintenance fees (2019 and 2020) of eSCRIBE software and hardware required to implement Council meeting webcasting as per Report CS-2019-10.

Comments

Two (2) projects for the MMF, as approved by Council are described as follows:

Town Hall Expansion Project - \$65,000

Installation of an electric vehicle charging station at the municipal campus will provide a new customer service for residents and visitors with electric vehicles. In partnership with Essex Power, a Level 3 fast charger similar to the one installed at the Amherstburg Recreation Centre will be explored for installation at Town Hall.

Community LED Signs - \$130,000

Currently, there are three Community Electronic LED Sign Message Displays located at the Arena, Town Hall (both Ward 3) and Fire Hall #2 (Ward 5). In order to more uniformly promote Town activities with the public, staff are recommending installation of two additional Community Electronic LED Sign Message Displays at Lakewood Park north (covering Wards 2 & 3) and McAuliffe Park (covering Ward 4 and the northern portion of Ward 5). The estimated cost of the infrastructure sign base and quality LED sign displays is approximately \$65,000 per sign.

As confirmed in Report CAO-2019-05, funds were allocated according to estimates for each project, however it was also noted that the cost estimates were high level and would require refinement through the procurement process. Some projects may be higher or lower, once actual quotes were received.

During the recent procurement process, the cost for the two (2) Community LED signs came in above the proposed project cost approved by Council (combined total of \$130,000). This is reflective of increased material and labour cost as well as site servicing (hydro and wifi) required to install the signs. In order to complete the purchase and installation of the two Community LED Signs, an additional \$45,000 is required. To meet the financial requirements to undertake this community signage project, it is recommended that the \$65,000 allocation to

Town Hall Expansion Project - Installation of an electric vehicle charging station at the municipal campus be reallocated, with \$45,000 to the Community LED Sign project.

This would leave a sum of \$20,000 in MMF 2019 funds available for a different project. As Council is aware, an outcome of the recently completed Organizational Review was the need to complete a service review in the Clerks Department. It is noted that this review is an eligible cost under the Municipal Modernization Fund program and is deemed by the CAO and Senior Management team as an important project to undertake and it is recommended that the remaining \$20,000 in MMF funds be re-allocated to help fund this review.

It is acknowledged that the electrical vehicle charging stations play an important role in future municipal services that the public will expect. As the automotive industry moves toward expanding on their product line of electric vehicles, it will be important to have these units placed in strategic locations throughout municipal properties. Administration will continue researching grant opportunities through a partnership with Essex Power to expand on the installation of electrical vehicle charging stations at and beyond the municipal Town Hall campus.

Consultations

Chief Administrative Officer
Financial Services
Information & Communication Services
Essex Power

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications to this report. The recommendations contained within this report consider amending the approved Municipal Modernization Fund 2019 project list and the reallocation of existing funding.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ensure that Tecumseh's current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh's plans and priorities.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steward the Town's "continuous improvement" approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrate the Town's leadership role in the community by promoting good governance and community engagement, by bringing together organizations serving the Town and the region to pursue common goals.

Communications

Not applicable ☒

Website ☐

Social Media ☐

News Release ☐

Local Newspaper ☐

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Paul Anthony, RRFA
Director Parks & Recreation Services

Reviewed by:

Shaun Fuerth, BCS
Director Information & Communication Services

Reviewed by:

Tom Kitsos, CPA, CMA, BComm
Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
None	None