

B.1 John Corrigan, Off-Leash Dog Park – Request for Front-End Funding

John then spoke on behalf of a group of dog owners who use the Blues diamond at Moreau Park for a dog run, adding the Beaver Valley Athletic Association had requested the diamond be reserved for baseball use after April 30 and Council had identified a new site for a fenced dog park between the Blues diamond and the Skateboard Park.

John then noted the group had raised \$4,760 to date for the installation of fencing and have received a contractor's quote in the amount of \$11,000 for the project, leaving the group approximately \$7,000 short.

John then noted the group would not be able to raise the full amount by the end of April and his request is for assistance from the Town to have the fence installed by the end of April in the form of a loan in the amount of approximately \$7,000 in the interim.

Councillor Gamble then questioned if continued fund-raising would take 15 to 18 months, John replying the target date to complete fund-raising was December 31, 2013.

Councillor Ardiel then noted Council had been supportive of a dog park and questioned if the group had approached any service clubs for support, John replying a committee of the group had laid out a fund-raising campaign and proposed contact groups, adding they did not want to move forward without first contacting the Town regarding interim financing.

Councillor McKean then noted if the group of 47 each contributed \$200 they would reach the total required, adding even though the request is a lesser amount, the request is similar to one made earlier by the curling club group.

Councillor McKean further noted the Town has space in the weekly newspaper Community Page to advertise on behalf of the group and that may be an avenue of assistance.

John then noted the Town has 300 e-mail addresses from dog licence sales but the group cannot use the personal information.

Councillor McKean then noted for continuity Council has to treat all taxpayers the same, but the Town could offer advertising and perhaps put the information on the Town website, adding the Town is not a bank. Councillor McKean then questioned if this was a situation where a charitable tax receipt could be issued by the Town for donations.

Rob then noted that late in the Agenda the Committee will consider a new Charitable Donations Receipt Policy based on new Canada Revenue Agency rules, adding at this point in time, if someone is raising funds for a project, the only way in which it would be eligible for a charitable tax receipt would be if the funds were paid to the Town and the Town was paying for the work.

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: R.J. Gamble Seconded by: Joe Halos

THAT Council support the dog park project at Moreau Park with the provision of interim funding for fence installation in the amount required net of donations at the time the invoice is received.

In speaking to the Motion, Chair Halos noted the group has been asked to vacate the Blues diamond and significant funding for the project has already been raised and the proposed dog park was a worthy project.

Bruce then noted the Committee has never spent an entire annual Budget and did not ask for roll-over of previous unspent funding.

Chair Halos then noted the previous evening Council had heard the OPP present four policing options for the Town, adding a *Police Services Act* section 5.1 policing scenario would not feature a Police Services Board and a Community Policing Committee would be important, Troy clarifying section 5.1 policing required establishment of a Community Policing Advisory Committee similar to Wasaga Beach, with no Police Services Board and a Community Policing Committee not being directly connected.

Councillor Gamble then noted he would support and in the past such funds have come from a police reserve, adding he believes the Committee has done fabulous work to date in helping to make the community safer.

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: R.J. Gamble Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT Council provide funding in the amount of \$2,000.00 to the Community Policing Committee for 2013 Committee activity from the police reserve fund, unanimously Carried.

C. Staff Reports as circulated

Due to a previous commitment of Don Braden of the Village Association, Lisa requested Agenda Item C.2 be heard at this time, the Committee concurring.

C.2 Business Association Investment Budget Allocations, CEDC.13.5

Lisa then reviewed the Report, noting \$15,000 was approved in the Communications and Economic Development Budget to support local business organizations, adding the three groups noted met independently and made the funding recommendations, including \$10,000 for destination development advertising.

Lisa then noted she received statistics on TSN viewership of the Centurion event, numbering 377,000, adding advertising was \$20,000 in 2012 and the Village Association agreed this year that \$10,000 would be sufficient.

Lisa then noted the Village Association has met or exceeded previous destination development advertising expectations.

Lisa then noted the remaining Budget would be sufficient to meet statutory Economic Development advertising for 2013.

Councillor Gamble then noted he fully supports the \$10,000 as he feels it is an event that brings people into the area, then questioning at what point would the Centurion event would be self-supporting, adding Council had just decided to spend \$25,000 with the Georgian Triangle Tourist Association and he would support this allocation if it is within the Budget.

Lisa then stated she believes the Centurion is presently self-sustaining and the advertising is part of a destination advertising project.

Chair Halos then noted he appreciates local business leaders being behind the funding allocation, adding he supports the initiative.

Councillor Ardiel then questioned if the Clarksburg Business Association provides financial statements to the Town, Linda Wykes of the Association was then in attendance and replied yes, adding in 2012 the Town contributed \$2,000 of the total Budget of approximately \$12,000. Linda further noted in 2013 the Association is proposing some additional special projects, such as decorative flower pot watering. Gail then questioned if the Town was not already doing the watering, Shawn replying the Town watering had not previously been billed and this would represent an interdepartmental transfer in 2013.

Gail then noted Council had recently supported \$25,000 funding for the Georgian Triangle Tourist Association and questioned if the Town is able to fund the subject \$25,000 as well as the GTTA funding, Rob replying the GTTA funding was agreed to be an interim financing situation and hopefully the funds will come from efficiencies found during the year.

Councillor McKean then requested clarification on sufficient Communications and Economic Budget funding remaining for 2013, Lisa replying the total 2013 Budget was \$15,000 so if \$10,000 is spent on destination advertising, \$5,000 would remain for public meeting advertising and other needs in that portfolio.

Lisa then stated in previous years the Town has used the \$10,000 in particular to promote destination advertising and this is seen as a continuation.

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: R.J. Gamble Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT Council receive Staff Report CEDC.13.5 "2013 Business Association Investment Budget Allocations" for information purposes; and

THAT Council approve the allocation of the Business Association Investment Budget line in the Communications and Economic Development Budget as follows:

\$5,000 for Apple Pie Trail (Village Association);
\$5,000 for the Blue Mountains Chamber of Commerce;
\$5,000 for Clarksburg Business Association; and

FURTHER THAT Council approve \$10,000 in support of destination development advertising through the Village Association Centurion event, to be funded through the Communications and Economic Development Advertising Budget, unanimously Carried.

C.1 2013 Grants and Donations Applications, CEDC.13.6

Lisa then noted the Grants and Donations Program has now been in existence for six years and allows Council to address all applications for Grants and Donations. Lisa then noted qualification criteria for applications include only for non-profit organizations that contribute to the community, provide a benefit for residents, funding for operating only and not deficits, demonstrated management expertise and alignment with existing Town Plans and strategies.

Lisa then noted previous grants to the Beaver Valley Outreach in the amount of \$6,040 and the Georgian Bay Sailing Regatta in the amount of \$1,460 reduced the Grants and Donations Budget from \$30,000 to \$22,140.

The Committee then discussed program criteria and application compliance, Lisa noting the total asks were \$51,439, against the remaining Budget of \$22,140.

Chair Halos then suggested a protocol for reviewing the applications and eliminating those not desirable to fund, the Committee then reviewing applications for criteria compliance and allocation.

Joe then noted there are groups that rent Town facilities and the Town pays the rent through grant funding which reduces the Budget funding available, adding some of these groups might take advantage of the reciprocal agreement the Town has with the Beaver Valley Community Centre for use of classroom and gymnasium space after hours.

Shawn then noted the Beaver Valley Community Centre is considered very accessible with more than adequate parking.

Lisa then noted previously adopted criteria does not allow grant funding for deficits, Councillor McKean noting some organizations operate at a deficit but meet other criteria.

Regarding the Marsh Street Centre application, Joe noted Council had previously provided a substantial loan, Councillor Gamble stating Council should have a forecast for repayment of previous loans and perhaps the Committee should meet with the group, Rob reporting there are two outstanding loans, both with quarterly payments and both current to date.

Joe then noted the group appears to be doing good work with a larger schedule of events.

Tom Kennedy then spoke on behalf of the Marsh Street Centre, noting wages paid had been significantly reduced and a \$1,500 deficit was presently forecast but the group is working hard to break even.

Joe then noted Council believes the Centre is a wonderful facility and that is why the Town previously supported it.

John then noted some of the larger requests simply cannot be considered in full.

Lisa then clarified that all rental subsidy requests were identified as yes for meeting criteria.

Councillor Ardiel then questioned if the Meaford or Collingwood Hospitals were receiving annual grant funding, Rob replying not since the Town became involved with the Community Health Centre.

Joe then noted hospital funding has changed and should be primarily a Provincial issue.

John then noted the situation for the Clarksburg Farmer's Market has changed with new rental fees for Lion's Park, Bob questioning what vendors pay, Deb Crosskill of the Market then in attendance and replying vendors paid \$225 for the season from May 24 to Thanksgiving every Wednesday, with most revenue going to advertising and association membership fees.

Gail then questioned if it had been considered to operate on Saturdays, Deb replying they would compete with three other Markets for patrons and vendors.

Bob then noted he had concern with a full rental subsidy in competing with other local store owners who paid taxes, John noting often a Market will offer items not available in a grocery store.

Joe then noted after review to now, the Grants and Donations Program was at \$25,429, adding all approvals could be reduced by the same percentage to arrive at the Budget amount of \$22,140. Troy then noted the Town has realized some savings in employment gapping and the Budget could be increased to meet the higher figure, John noting there are several Tenders yet to come and Council may need any extra funding available and if it appears there will be a surplus toward the end of the year, grant funding could always be provided.

Gail then noted in 2012 several sponsorship requests came in through the year after the Grants and Donations Program was considered, for example charity golf tournaments.

Lisa then noted there may be an opportunity over the rest of the year to have a 2014 program with two funding streams one to address small requests.

The Committee then further reviewed the complying requests, Lisa noting there would now be \$211 remaining in the Budget.

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: John McKean Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

That Council receive Staff Report CEDC.13.6 '2013 Grants and Donations Applications' for information purposes; and

THAT Council authorize the funding of these applications as determined by the Committee, Carried.

Name of Applicant	Request Amount (\$)	Committee Recommendation (\$)
Beaver Valley Agricultural Society	3,000	3,000 subsidy
Beaver Valley Curling Club	2,240	700 subsidy
Beaver River Watershed Initiative	3,000	1,000
Breaking Down Barriers	5,000	2,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Georgian Bay	1,000	0
Blue Mountains Christian Council	140	140 subsidy
Canadian Motorcycle Club	200	0
Clarksburg Farmers Market	1,725	1,725 subsidy
Clarksburg Cat Shelter	1,780	0
Drive Fore Teens Event	330	330 subsidy
Jazzmania	2,000	2,000 subsidy
Collingwood General and Marine Hospital Foundation	6,000	3,000
Environment Network	2,800	1,000
Georgian Triangle Housing Resource Centre	1,500	1,500
Golden Beavers	2,204	1,500 subsidy
My Friend's House	2,500	2,500
Remembrance Day Services	150 (Ravenna) 184 (Clarksburg)	(\$150) (184 subsidy)
Meaford Coyote Club	2,500	0
Marsh Street Community Centre	4,000	0
Georgian Triangle Running club	750	0
Rotary Club of Thornbury Clarksburg	2,000	1,200 subsidy
Georgian Bay Sailing Regatta	1,436	0
Theatre Collingwood	5,000	0
TOTAL	51,439	21,929

C.3 Public Art De-accessioning, PAEC.13.1

Lisa then reviewed the Report, noting the Public Art Committee had reviewed the Town art collection and determined the items that could be de-accessioned, adding the piano had never been sited and there were Health and Safety concerns with some of the statue collection, save for one item, Children on the Bench.

Councillor Ardiel then questioned if it is known how much funds would be received if the items were sold, Lisa replying not at this time.

Gail then questioned if Grey Roots would be interested in the items, Lisa replying the Town had not discussed the statue collection but Beaver Valley Community School and Grey County have no interest in the piano due to maintenance costs.

Councillor Gamble then questioned if the donors were aware of the proposal and will there be repercussions, Lisa replying the donors were aware of the Staff Report and as good corporate representatives we should liaise with the donors as to their preferences.

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: John McKean Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT Council receive Committee Report PAEC.13.1, "Public Art De-accessioning" for information purposes; and

THAT Council approve the de-accessioning of the Chickering Square Piano and the statue collection, save and except the "Children on the Bench", unanimously Carried.

C.4 Financial Indicator Review, FIT.13.19

Rob then reviewed the Report, noting the Town is in a low-risk level in every indicator other than Total Taxes Receivable, which is in the middle of the moderate risk level. Rob further noted the Town has been very pro-active in managing infrastructure sustainability.

Councillor Ardiel then thanked Rob and Staff for keeping Council apprised of risk and debt and managing budgets.

Chair Halos then concurred with Gail, noting the Debt Servicing Cost is close to average but still low. Rob then noted traditionally many municipalities have been averse to debt and the median figure may rise, but the Town is under the average at any rate.

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: Gail Ardiel Seconded by: John McKean

THAT Council receive Staff Report FIT.13.19 "Financial Indicator Review" for information purposes, unanimously Carried.

C.5 Charitable Donations Receipt Policy, FIT.13.22

Rob then reviewed the Report, noting a Council approved Policy will provide guidance to Staff and stakeholders and ensure compliance with Canada Revenue Agency regulations.

Rob then noted under the *Income Tax Act*, the Town is considered a qualified donee for charitable donations, with the 2011 Federal Budget including several changes to rules

for issuing receipts for charitable donations. Rob further noted the Policy will formalize the charitable donation receipt program, including accounting for donations of cash or in-kind made to the Town.

Rob then noted donations must be made to the Town and the mandate of the project must be the Town's, adding a donor cannot direct where the donation may be used unless made to a Town project.

Councillor McKean then questioned how this would affect what the Town has done previously, Rob replying the Town for example could advertise for donations for a dog park, but unsolicited donations would not qualify.

Councillor Gamble then noted it is not permitted to for people to donate their time to qualify, Rob replying a gift in-kind would not be eligible and any donation would require approval.

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: John McKean Seconded by: R.J. Gamble

THAT Council receive Staff Report FIT.13.22 "Charitable Donations Receipt Policy" for information purposes, and THAT Council approve the Charitable Donations Receipt Policy as outlined in Appendix A of FIT.13.22, unanimously Carried.

C.6 Monthly Financial Report – March 2013, FIT.13.24

Rob then reviewed the Report, noting Tax-supported expenses are running at 26% of Budget and revenues at 39%, both about 3% higher than 2012. Rob further noted operating expenses show at 89% of Budget as a result of commitments to purchase gravel and dust layer materials in the amount of \$335,000 for the coming season.

Rob then noted regarding Water and Wastewater operations, total expenses are running at 23% with revenues at 19%, both figures at 225 and 20% in 2012. Rob further noted professional fees are 54% of Budget which relates directly to work on the Water Modeling and Distribution Analysis project which is almost complete.

Rob then noted regarding User Fee operations, there was good first quarter for Building Permits with revenue up over 2012.

Councillor Gamble then questioned if the Tax Supported operating expenses at 89% included insurance, Rob replying no, just gravel and dust layer materials.

Rob then reviewed the Flash Reports, noting a recent amendment to the Development Charges By-law resulted in 12 refunds which negated any new funds. Rob then noted Landfill and Building Permit revenues were both up over 2012.

Deputy Mayor Duncan McKinlay then attended the meeting.

Regarding investment income, Rob noted Staff may review some longer term investments to achieve Budget projections. Regarding salaries, Rob noted the figures are a little better than expected as a result of gapping. Regarding policing, Rob noted the Town was 970 hours under contract to date, the contract being 2,193 hours per month.

Councillor Ardiel then noted Building Permit revenue was up but the number of Permits was down, Rob replying yes, the building value being higher.

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: John McKean Seconded by: R.J. Gamble

THAT Council receive Staff Report FIT.13.24 "Monthly Financial Report – March 2013" for information purposes, unanimously Carried.

D. Correspondence

D.1 Grey County Federation of Agriculture - MPAC assessed value of farmland

Councillor McKean then stated in his opinion the value is what it is and if the value of a farm has increased according to MPAC then that is a benefit to the owner. John further noted residential taxes have been carrying a significant load over the years and may get a break in the future, adding it would be very difficult for Staff to investigate. John then stated it would be his recommendation to carry on with what MPAC has valued the farm at.

Councillor Ardiel then noted this was only one farm federation and perhaps the Town should wait for the result of what the various federations have discussed with MPAC.

Councillor Gamble then questioned if the house component of a farm had also increased, Ruth replying it was her understanding just the farm land had increased.

Deputy Mayor McKinlay then reported the same correspondence had been received at Grey County and the increased valuation may be linked to world high prices for commodities, adding the matter was referred to Treasury Staff for consideration during 2014 Budget deliberations, adding there did not appear to be any great appetite for change.

Duncan then noted he responded to the Federation advising them to analyze various farm land situations before initiating advocacy, adding Grey County would formally respond to the Federation and that could be shared with the Town.

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: John McKean Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT Council receive the request of the Grey County Federation of Agriculture request that various farm tax ratio scenarios less than 25% be considered and await further information on the request from Grey County, unanimously Carried.

D.2 Dr. Kellie Leitch, M.P., Simcoe-Grey - Gas Tax Fund Allocations

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: Gail Ardiel Seconded by: John McKean

THAT Council requests Dr. Kellie Leitch, M.P., Simcoe-Grey, to support the extension of the Gas Tax Fund Allocation program to continue beyond 2014, unanimously Carried.

D.3 Marsh Street Centre Request to Waive Building Permit Fees

The Committee then dealt with the following Recommendation:

Moved by: Gail Ardiel Seconded by: John McKean

