



GENERAL COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 28, 2020
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CIVIC SQUARE

Meeting Number 2020 - 02

1. **OPEN GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING AT 7:00 P.M.**
 - 1.1 **CALL TO ORDER BY VICE MAYOR CLAUDETTE RICHARD**
 - 1.2 **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA**
 - 1.3 **DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**
 - 1.4 **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

General Committee Meeting of January 14, 2020.
 - 1.5 **ITEMS TO BE REMOVED FROM BLOCK FOR DISCUSSION IN COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE (OPEN) (See blue tab)**
2. **VERBAL REPORTS AND DELEGATIONS**
 - 2.1 **PRESENTATIONS - Nil**
 - 2.2 **DELEGATIONS (MAXIMUM 5/10/5 RULE) - Nil**
 - 2.3 **AGENCIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES REPORT(S) – Nil**
3. **COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE (OPEN)**
(Discuss items removed from Agenda Block)
4. **ADJOURNMENT**



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Page No.

AGENDA BLOCK

1. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES, PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND OTHER ITEMS REFERRED FROM COUNCIL FOR DISCUSSION

Deferred from the General Committee Meeting of January 14, 2020.

CORPORATE SERVICES – D. McLeod, Chair

Finance Division

- 1 - 4 FIN-2020-01 Manager of Budgets and Financial Reporting/Deputy Treasurer,
E. Pankoff – 2020 Permissive Grants. Ref. No. 20-5

2. STAFF REPORTS

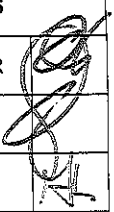
CORPORATE SERVICES – D. McLeod, Chair

Finance Division

- 5 - 9 FIN-2020-02 Manager of Budgets and Financial Reporting/Deputy Treasurer,
E. Pankoff – Low Income Senior Water/Wastewater Rebate Program.
Ref. No. 20-37

3. NEW BUSINESS - Nil

GENERAL COMMITTEE
CORPORATE SERVICES
FINANCE DIVISION

APPROVALS	
GENERAL MANAGER	
CFO	
CAO	

20-5

REPORT FIN-2020-01
JANUARY 14, 2020

SUBJECT: 2020 PERMISSIVE GRANTS

**AUTHOR: ELIZABETH PANKOFF, MBA, CPA, CGA,
MANAGER OF BUDGETS AND FINANCIAL
REPORTING/DEPUTY TREASURER**

**APPROVING G.M.: STEVE ZORBAS, CPA, CMA, B. Comm., DPA,
GENERAL MANAGER, CORPORATE SERVICES, CHIEF FINANCIAL
OFFICER/TREASURER**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND approves the 2020 Permissive Grants attached to Report FIN-2020-01 as Appendix I.

ORIGIN AND BACKGROUND:

In accordance to the *Municipal Act, 2001*, Section 290 (1) requires a municipality each year to adopt a budget.

COMMENTS AND ANALYSIS:

At the December 3, 2019 Council meeting, Council approved the City's 2020 Tax and Rate Supported Operating & Capital Budgets. For the 2020 budget year, Council approved \$276,142 for Permissive Grants. A summary of the organizations requesting Permissive Grants are attached as Appendix I.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

The 2020 staff-recommended funding is guided by the 'Grants and Special Assistance Policy', approved by Council. All late applications have been included in the "Summary of 2020 Grant Applications" Appendix 1. The CFO has reviewed all applications received as of January 6, 2020. Recommendation for funding support are based on the following:

1. Services provided to the City of Welland.
2. Council approved Permissive Grant Policy.
3. Council approved budget \$276,142.
4. Historical Funding Support.

OTHER DEPARTMENT IMPLICATIONS:

N/A.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that Council approves the 2020 Permissive Grants attached to Report FIN-2020-01 as Appendix I.

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix I – Summary of 2020 Grant Applications



Summary of 2020 Grant Applications

	Organization	Date Submitted	Purpose	2020 Grant Amount Requested	2020 Staff Recommended	15% of Operating Costs	2019 Grant Amount Requested	2019 Approved	2018 Grant Amount Requested	2018 Approved	Complies to Policy	>30% of funding by other levels of gov't	Financial Statements Received	Grant received over the past 3 consecutive years
1	Dain City Recreation Committee	Sept 17/19	Existing Level of Service for 2 events	\$3,000	\$0	n/a					N	unknown	N	N
2	Faith Welland Outreach	Sept 18/19	Maintain existing level of service/expand programming	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$19,721	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$23,000	\$23,000	N	N	Y	Y
3	On Board	Sept 24/19	annual event	\$1,000	\$1,000	n/a					N	unknown	N	N
4	Feast of the Assumption*	Sept 25/19	Annual Event	\$2,310	\$2,310	n/a	\$2,225	\$2,200	2018	2018	N	unknown	N	N
5	Zombie Walk - Welland	Sept 27/19	Annual fundraising for food banks	\$2,500	\$2,500	n/a					N	unknown	N	N
6	Welland Pickleball Club**	Sept 27/19	Purchase of defibrillator/first aid kit & advertising	\$3,500	\$2,000	418					N	unknown	N	N
7	Rose City Kids Ministry	Sept 27/19	maintain existing level of service	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$69,043	\$30,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	N	N	Y	Y
8	Paroisse Sacre Coeur	Sept 28/19	continued launch of new program	\$4,000	\$2,000	n/a	\$4,200	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	N	Unknown	N	N
9	Visual Artists of Welland	Sept 28/19	maintain existing level of service & capital expenditures	\$7,000	\$1,500	\$1,217	\$7,000	\$1,500			N	N	N	N
10	Pathstone Foundation	Sept 30/19	To establish Walk-in-clinic in Welland	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$242,770					N	unknown	Y	N
11	Welland Floatfest Festival	Sept 30/19	To continue annual event	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$7,304	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$16,023	\$13,000	N	N	Y	Y
12	Welland Rose Festival	Sept 30/19	Annual Events	\$100,000	\$70,000	\$15,578	\$80,000	\$70,000	\$65,733	\$60,000	N	N	Y	Y
13	Niagara Safety Village	Sept 30/19	Maintain existing level of service & expand camp	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$22,290	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	N	Y	Y	Y
14	Open Arms Mission	Sept 30/19	Capital Exp \$19,975 / service expansionn \$11,075	\$31,050	\$31,050	\$51,190	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$48,775	\$45,000	N	N	Y	Y
15	La Boite a Soleil	Sept 30/19	2 Skate-a-thons (Feb 9/20 & Dec 6/20) Annual Events & new programming	\$5,000	\$346	\$513,230	\$346	\$346	306	306	N	Y	N	Y
16	The Hope Centre	Oct 2/19	Maintain existing level of service	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$173,330	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$60,000	N	Y	Y	Y
17	Welland Heritage Council & Multicultural Centre	Oct 2/19	Dragon Boat Festival/Multicultural Festival	\$8,775	\$8,775	\$254,670	\$8,775	\$8,000	\$5,773	\$5,773	N	Y	Y	N
18	Royal Canadian Legion Br. 4	Oct 15/19	Annual Events - Nov 8, 2020 & Nov 11, 2020 Remembrance Day	\$500	\$500	\$45,293	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$6,395	\$5,385	N	N	Y	Y
19	City of Welland Heritage Advisory Committee	Oct 28/19	Maintain existing level of service	\$13,235	\$13,235	\$1,985	\$13,235	\$13,235	\$13,235	\$13,235	N - >15%of operating costs	N	N	Y
20	Femmes du Feu Creations	Nov 11/19	Support New Program	\$5,000		\$3,737					N - >15%of operating costs	unknown	Y	N
21	South Niagara Rowing Club***	Oct 1/19	Shoe Program - to retrofit row boats	\$3,000	\$3,000				\$5,000	\$0	N-Project budget not provided	N	Y	N
Total				\$342,870	\$271,216		\$309,281	\$260,781	\$281,258	\$258,727				

Summary of 2020 Grant Applications

Organization	Date Submitted	Purpose	2020 Grant Amount Requested	2020 Staff Recommended	15% of Operating Costs	2019 Grant Amount Requested	2019 Approved	2018 Grant Amount Requested	2018 Approved	Complies to Policy	>30% of funding by other levels of gov't	Financial Statements Received	Grant received over the past 3 consecutive years
				\$276,142									
Council Approved 2020 Budget Difference				-\$4,926									
Notes													
1 Late application.													
General Committee allocation- Jan 14, 2020 meeting													
Feast of the Assumption*- Increased by \$110.00													
Welland Pickleball Club.** Allocated \$2,000													
South Niagara Rowing Club-*** Allocated \$3,000													

GENERAL COMMITTEE
CORPORATE SERVICES
FINANCE DIVISION

APPROVALS	
GENERAL MANAGER	
CFO	
CAO	

20-37

REPORT FIN-2020-02
JANUARY 28, 2020

SUBJECT: LOW INCOME SENIOR WATER/WASTEWATER REBATE PROGRAM

**AUTHOR: MIKE LOSTRACCO,
REVENUE SERVICES MANAGER**

**APPROVING G.M.: STEVE ZORBAS, CPA, CMA, B.Comm, DPA,
GENERAL MANAGER, CORPORATE SERVICES, CHIEF FINANCIAL
OFFICER / TREASURER**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND approves the Low Income Seniors Water/Wastewater Rebate Policy as outlined in Report FIN-2020-02.

ORIGIN AND BACKGROUND:

The City currently has three water/wastewater rebate programs. On October 13, 2015, Welland City Council approved the administration of the Special Assistance Program (refer to Appendix I) for the Water/Wastewater accounts by the Hope Centre. The intention of this program is to assist residential property owners on a fixed income that experience difficulties with payment of their water/wastewater bill. This program is aimed at offering assistance to those customers who meet to the established criteria.

On December 22, 2015, Welland City Council approved the High Water Leak Adjustment Policy (refer to Appendix II). This program offers financial assistance to homeowners who experience higher than normal water/wastewater billings resulting from leaks arising from internal plumbing issues. Certain criteria must be met in order to qualify.

On November 13, 2017, Welland City Council approved the Low Income Senior Water/Wastewater Rebate Program. This program offers financial assistance to low consumption low-income seniors.

COMMENTS AND ANALYSIS:

A request was made during Budget deliberations to update the criteria needed to qualify for the program. Staff is proposing to:

1. Raise the maximum annual consumption limit from 50m³ to 75m³
2. Raise the rebate from \$100 to \$300.

The rest of the criteria would remain the same:

- Age 65 or older
- Assessed owner of a residential property in the City of Welland for at least one year
- Property is used as a primary residence
- In receipt of monthly Guaranteed Income Supplement

Refer to Appendix III for the proposed Low Income Seniors Water/Wastewater Rebate Policy.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

The proposed 2020 Water/Wastewater Rate Supported budget includes \$40,000 in each Water and Wastewater budget to accommodate the existing three rebate programs.

OTHER DEPARTMENT IMPLICATIONS:

N/A

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that the Council of the City of Welland approves the Low Income Seniors Water/Wastewater Rebate Policy as outlined in report FIN-2020-02.

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix I – Special Assistance Program – Water and Wastewater

Appendix II – High Water Leak Adjustment Policy

Appendix III – Proposed Low Income Seniors Water/Wastewater Rebate Policy

HIGH LEAK ADJUSTMENT POLICY

Purpose of this policy is to provide relief to homeowners that have an unusually high water/wastewater bill due to a leak of some kind.

- Consumption must exceed 2 times the average consumption
- Request must be within 60 days following the issuance of the high bill
- Proof of repair must be provided
- Adjustment will be credited to the homeowner's Water & Wastewater account, no refunds
- 1 leak adjustment per 2 years and no more than 2 leak adjustments over 10 years
- Adjustment capped at \$1,000
- Not applicable for the filling of pools, hot tubs, gardening, watering lawns or other outside activities

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – WATER/WASTEWATER

The intention of this program is to assist residential property owners on a fixed income that experience difficulties with the payment of their water/wastewater bill.

- Program is offered through the Hope Centre
- Applicant will complete applicable forms which will be reviewed & approved by the Hope Centre
- Upon approval, the City will apply the approved payment to the customer's Water/Wastewater bill
- The City will pay the Hope Centre a 10% administration fee
- Maximum of \$500 per every 2 years for each individual who meets the criteria

PROPOSED LOW-INCOME SENIOR WATER/WASTEWATER REBATE PROGRAM

The intention of this program is to address the impact of water/wastewater rates charged to the low consumption, low-income residential customers.

- Application based: Received no later than May 1 for consumption of the prior year
 - eg. 2018 applications to be received no later than May 1, 2019
- Applicant/Spouse must be 65 years old or older.
- Applicant assessed owners – renters not eligible.
- Property must be personal residence.
- Applicant/Spouse in receipt of monthly guaranteed income supplement pursuant to Part II of the Old Age Security Act (Canada)
- The annual water/wastewater consumption must be **75 m³** or less for the application year.
- Upon approval, the City will apply the annual rebate of **\$300** to the applicant's water/wastewater billing account