



Council Report

Report Number CS2020-008

Meeting Date: August 20, 2020

Title: CS2020-008 Old Jail Lease Agreement with Victoria County Historical Society

Description: Lease Agreement with the Victoria County Historical Society being recommended for execution to allow for continued use and services for a Museum

Author and Title: Craig Shanks, Director of Community Services

Recommendation(s):

That Report CS2020-008, **Old Jail Lease Agreement with Victoria County Historical Society**, be received;

That the agreement between the Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes and the Victoria County Historical Society for the continued use of the Old Jail facility as a Society Museum, attached as Appendix A to Report CS2020-008, be approved; and

That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute any documents and agreements required by the approval of this agreement.

Department Head:_____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other:_____

Chief Administrative Officer:_____

Background:

The purpose of this report is to recommend the authorization of a new lease agreement (Appendix A) with the Victoria County Historical Society for their continued use of the Old Jail facility as their home administration building and as a public cultural museum space.

This report addresses this recommendation.

Rationale:

There is an existing lease agreement that is due for renewal, December 31, 2021, between the municipality and the Historical Society for the use of the Old Jail facility as their base of operations and a cultural museum. This report and draft lease agreement is brought forward to renew and refresh a new agreement for execution.

The Society and City staff work closely and well together and have formed an excellent partnership. There are some sections of the current agreement which do not work logistically and in reality for either party. This is specifically related to Capital costs of the facility. The new agreement will clearly identify these cost and expenses as being the responsibility of the City. This is fact is how it has been handled for the past number of years and the only sustainable model that will allow the Society to continue to operate.

The new agreement will also spell out more specifics that are a truer reflection of current roles and responsibilities while also more clearly delineating future use of the greenspace within the facility walls. This will allow for more efficient use of the space and the management of the project to remove the walls, health and safety concerns, as the projects move forward.

If events and/or realities change that make this agreement problematic for either party, there are clauses within that will allow discussions and/or mutual cancellation of the lease agreement. The agreement has been reviewed, and in fact generated, with great assistance by the Society and they support the execution of it as a way to allow them to proceed in a sustainable model while also provide a service to the City and its residents and visitors.

Other Alternatives Considered:

Council could choose not to enter into a lease agreement for this facility. That is not recommended by staff as the use of the facility by the Historical Society as their administration offices and a museum is its best use. Also, this agreement would allow for the Society to continue operation in a sustainable manner while operating a desired service to the City residents and visitors. This is a strong partnership which the Society and City has formed and this lease agreement will allow it to continue to foster and develop.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

This report and the recommendations within address three of the four strategic priorities within the 2020-2023 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan:

1. An Exceptional Quality of Life
2. A Vibrant and Growing Economy
3. Good Government

The recommendations will support the continued use of a City historical facility as a Cultural Museum and allow for a Not-for-Profit organization to continue to provide this service to our residents and visitors. The Strategic Plan is available on SharePoint at the following link:

[Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan 2020-2023](#)

Financial/Operation Impacts:

The lease agreement will have no new direct costs associated with it. The City will be responsible for the continued structural aspects of the facility and required capital projects as year's progress. While this is a change from the previous written agreement, the actuality was the City was responsible for various capital projects with the facility as it is a City asset and the availability of Society funds to provide for such expenses was not a reality. The Society will still, and has in the past, apply for funding opportunities for various capital and operating requirements.

Staff are also aware that the Society will be making a deputation and request to Council regarding required relief funds as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. This is a separate request and not related to the execution of this lease agreement.

Consultations:

Corporate Services
City Solicitor
Victoria County Historical Society

Attachments:

Appendix A – Draft Lease Agreement



Olde Gaol Museum
revised draft lease -

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Department File: