



Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number: CS2022-04
Meeting Date: March 8, 2022
Title: CS2022-04 – Omemee Splash Pad Update
Description: Report on next steps for the potential inclusion of an Omemee Splash Pad construction in a future year's Capital Budget.
Author and Title: Craig Shanks, Director of Community Services

Recommendation(s):

That Report **CS2022-04, Omemee Splash Pad Update**, be received; and,

That this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

At the Council Meeting of January 28, 2021, Council adopted the following resolution(s):

CR2021-014

That the Memorandum from Councillor Ashmore, regarding the Omemees Beach Park Splash Pad, be received.

CR2021-015

That staff develop a plan consistent with past community partnerships for the infrastructure with costing to establish a splash pad in Omemees; and

That staff report back in Q2, 2021.

Subsequently, at the June 15, 2021 Council meeting, the following resolution(s) was adopted:

CR2021-285

That Report PRC2021-004, Omemees Splash Pad Update, be received; and

That staff review the servicing feasibility, including financing and capital costs, for a Splash Pad in Omemees and report back to Council with options by the end of Q4, 2021.

This report addresses that direction.

Rationale:

The status of a potential Omemees Splash Pad has not changed during the pandemic, with one exception, the cost of construction of such an amenity has increased. Splash pads in other City of Kawartha Lakes' communities; Bobcaygeon (Tommy Anderson Park), Fenelon Falls (Garnet Graham Park) and Lindsay (Elgin Park enhancement) all have relatively new splash pad amenities with majority funding and project leadership for funding securement being managed by the community. Also, Lindsay has a new splash pad in Logie Park that was included as part of the new park development due to the increased housing in that sector of Lindsay and funding with assistance from Development Charges.

The cost for the installation of a splash pad varies greatly depending on the size and amenities contained within the pad, the landscaping surrounding it and the servicing requirements needed for hook-up. Costs can range from as little as \$250,000 to \$600,000. Staff are suggesting that for a potential Omeme Splash Pad a budget cost of approximately \$500,000 would be required. These costs have recently increased for the development of a splash pad due to the pandemic that is affecting the entire construction industry. This also has included costs to assist with the water capacity issues which a project would face within the community of Omeme.

The location that has been identified for this proposal, if it were to move forward, would be the northern greenspace section of the Omeme Beach Park. This location would be pending the availability of water capacity within the Omeme Drinking Water System (DWS) and would be reviewed. There is no other municipal park property suited for this proposed installation.

For both the Bobcaygeon and Fenelon Falls splash pad projects the community funded 100% of the splash pad installation, including the actual pad, spray features and installation. Community groups led the fundraising for these capital components and were able to access external grant opportunities (ie. Trillium), private funding and some City managed programs (Bobcaygeon CHEST, Fenelon Falls Powerlinks). The City provided the parkland space, the servicing costs and funds the annual operating budget.

Within Lindsay, the Logie Park splash pad was funded mostly by Development Charges. The Elgin Park project, as an existing, older facility was in need of repair, renovation and enhancement as it was at the end of its lifecycle. It was funded via a combination for sources of a local Service Club, a Trillium Grant and City funding.

If a splash pad proposal for Omeme is determined to move forward water capacity issues in the village would need to be addressed and would come with a significant investment required. Further information can be found within the Servicing Implications section of this report. At present, it is understood that water capacity only exists within the western boundaries of Omeme and is not available for service at Omeme Beach Park.

Due to the lack of water capacity, a re-circulation system may be required. This would add complexity and cost to the project. A design and study of the system would be

required due to the health and safety protocols required. Costs would be as much as \$150,000 extra for the mechanics and installation.

Other Alternatives Considered:

Based on the servicing capacity concerns, if Council wishes to proceed with the option of the creation of an Omemee Splash Pad, a Capital Budget in the amount of \$100,000 could be included in the 2023 Capital Budget deliberations for a Water Servicing Study and Splash Pad Design to allow for an exact costing and feasibility to be determined.

Staff are aware that an Omemee Splash Pad project would be supported by the Omemee community in principle and that many community groups, service clubs and some potential private interest would assist in funding the project. If Council were to support this project, staff will reach out to the community to firm up these commitments to allow the community to generate and apply for the required fundraising for this facility based on exact costing requirements pending the design and service feasibility study.

Council could choose, although not recommended due to the unknowns, to include in the 2023 Capital Budget deliberations, or a future year, \$500,000 for the development of an Omemee Splash Pad.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

This report aligns with the strategic priorities within the 2020-2023 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan of:

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

The Strategic Plan is available on SharePoint at the following link:

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

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial impacts associated with this report. If Council chooses to consider this project for a future year, there would be an impact on a future capital budget requirement.

If the installation of an Omemees Splash Pad proceeds, there will be an operational budget impact for future years to a value of approximately \$25,000/year.

Servicing Implications:

Previous staff reports and Council resolutions and discussions with staff have advised that there is currently no capacity for additional water needs that would accommodate this infrastructure. An Environmental Assessment was completed and the outcome of the EA was not to expand municipal water servicing. Currently, there is only a small area, at the Northwest end, one subdivision, that has municipal water. There is one approved site plan that was granted municipal water that still needs to be constructed. All other developments will be on private water systems.

Staff Report WWW2015-011 deemed that the Omemees DWS owned by the City currently provides municipal drinking water to the residents at the west end of Omemees (Sarah Crescent and parts of Shawn Avenue / Sibley Avenue). In 2015 the City completed an Environmental Assessment which explored expansion of the DWS within Omemees. Through that process, Council resolved the following:

RESOLVED THAT Report WWW2015-011 Completion of the Omemees Water Supply Environmental Assessment, be received; THAT Council endorses the findings of the draft Environmental Assessment report and preferred solution of Do Nothing; THAT private water supply solutions be encouraged for growth in Omemees; and THAT staff be authorized to file the EA report for the legislated 30 day comment period.

CARRIED CR2015-1097

Further, Staff Report ENG2020-002 recommended that any available residual capacity within the DWS has been allocated to local development via resolution of Council (below) and as such there is no ability for the City to provide water for a splash pad in Omemees from the Municipal Drinking Water System without significant capital investment and reconsideration of the Environmental Assessment.

RESOLVED THAT Report ENG2020-002, Water Servicing Agreement Green Eden Developments Limited, be received; That Council agree to the provision of a permanent long water service connection in the municipal road allowance, serviced by the Victoria Glen Water Treatment Plant, to service up to 30 residential units at 40 Mary Street West, Omemees, to be constructed within the 5 year term of the Water Servicing Agreement, failing which the water servicing allocation will be rescinded;

That Green Eden Developments Ltd. enter into the Water Servicing Agreement, substantially in the form attached as Appendix A to Report ENG2020-002, with the City of Kawartha Lakes where the City will provide a permanent dedicated water service, with full cost recovery prior to commencing work to Green Eden Developments Ltd., including ongoing maintenance and repair costs that are attributable to Green Eden Developments Ltd. being borne by Green Eden Developments;

That an exemption to Section 5.03 e) of By-Law 2018-039, being a By-Law To Regulate Water and Wastewater Services in the City of Kawartha Lakes be approved by Council;

That the long water service is not qualified for additional water service connections and is not subject to By-Law 2014-255, being a By-Law Requiring Owners of Buildings to Connect Such Buildings to Drinking Water Systems and/or Wastewater Collection Systems in the City of Kawartha Lakes; and

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

CARRIED CR2020-022

As per the above Council resolutions, water capacity issues for an Omemees Splash Pad remain unsolved and problematic. There has been no study or review, and no budget allotment for such a project, to determine actual servicing capacity or costs of providing the required capacity. Council may also have to reverse their previous resolution in regards to water servicing capacity use within Omemees to allow for the potential use for an Omemees Splash Pad amenity.

Consultations:

Manager of Parks and Recreation
Director of Public Works
Director of Engineering and Corporate Assets

Attachments:

Appendix A: Staff Report PRC2021-004



PRC2021-004
Omemees Splash Pad

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