



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: Whitechurch Hall

Prepared By: Mike Fair

Department: Community Services

Date: Nov. 2, 2020

Report Number: CS-2020-11-45
Whitechurch Hall

File Number: 600 Facilities

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approves Report Number CS2020-11-45 prepared by Mike Fair, Director of Community Services and authorizes staff to consult the Whitechurch residents, AND FURTHER that staff obtain estimates for the proposed removal, site restoration, and memorial options for the Whitechurch hall property.

Background:

The number of rentals at the Whitechurch has steadily declined. There was some lengthy discussion during a public meeting in October of 2018 regarding the future of the hall, hall rentals, and associated future costs to hall improvements and accessibility as well. A letter to Council is attached from the members of the Whitechurch Hall board. The Hall board has an estimated \$2600.00 in their bank account and suggested that the funds be earmarked for any future memorial. There are also some items such as tables, chairs, and other miscellaneous items that the Board is suggesting to dispose of with a yard sale.

Discussion:

Staff has met with the Board and agrees with their recommendation to discontinue the use of the hall. Staff has discussed options and since the Whitechurch water supply well is located adjacent to the existing hall, staff recommends the removal of the hall and retain ownership of the property to mitigate threats to the Whitechurch well.

Staff recommends that a letter be sent to all residents of Whitechurch in order to gather any public input from the recommendation to remove the Whitechurch hall, restore the land, establish a memorial on the property, and gather input regarding Whitechurch park, with Council approval. Staff also recommends gathering estimated costs for removal, lot restoration, and memorial options and report back to Council.

Financial Impacts:

None at this time.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are a spirited community that takes pride in calling Huron-Kinloss home and welcoming others.

By engaging in our community

We are an accessible community that offers opportunities for everyone.

By being open and transparent

We are an environmentally conscious community that are good stewards of our natural environment.

By protecting our natural assets

By using our resources wisely

By being aware and taking responsibility

Respectfully Submitted By:

Mike Fair, Director of Community Services

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer