

Council Notes December 1, 2009

Marijuana Grow-Op Response Protocol

CAO, Shannon Hunter explained the new protocol for dealing with Marijuana Co-Ops. She explained that there are an estimated 15-20 thousand grow-ops in Ontario. The township gets involved because there are potential short and long term damages to buildings that have been exposed to grow-op activities. This new protocol applies only to indoor grow-ops and ensures that appropriate communications and roles are shared between O.P.P., Peterborough detachment, the Peterborough Lakefield police, Peterborough City Health Unit, and other involved authorities. Any building in North Kawartha that has been a grow-op will have to be inspected by township building inspectors. Owners of any building deemed unsafe will have a specific time limit to make repairs. Failure to repair the building may result in the building inspector prohibiting the use of the building and may even lead to its demolition to protect the public. Council approved the new protocol and Deputy Reeve, Barry Rand thanked Ms. Hunter for coordinating the project with the other authorities.

Status Report on the New Multi-Use Facility

Director of Parks and Recreation, Garry Gerald, reviewed the current list of extra cost items associated with the new Multi-Use Facility. He explained that all of the items have been due to either site conditions or consultant coordination / omissions. The two most expensive items on the list were an increase in height for the elevator shaft (\$1044.37) and the addition of operable casement windows in an office and the Seniors' room (\$ 1680.00). Mr. Gerald explained that there are many changes that are negotiated and are either at no cost or at a credit in favour of the township. Council praised Mr. Gerald on his diligence and commented that, given the cost of the entire project, the extra charges have been small. Council was reminded however that some of the site condition charges have not yet been submitted and these reflect the changes to the septic and items related to the ground conditions that were discovered during excavation.

Busy Year Allows Building Department to Buy New Truck

Chief Building Official, Tim Powell, recommended that the building department purchase a truck to replace an old 2002 unit now, rather than in 2010. He explained that the amount of building activity in the township has increased the revenues 227% over a normal year. This, combined with excellent incentives from automobile dealers, have created a one-time opportunity. Council approved the purchase of a new 2010 Ford Ranger Supercab 4X4 from Paul Price Ford for \$ 25,864.00 (the lowest quoted price). Because of the increased inspection revenues, the purchase will have no adverse impact on ratepayers.