



Staff Report

Administration

Report To: Committee of The Whole
Meeting Date: October 7, 2019
Report Number: FAF.19.198
Subject: Agreement to Lower Thornbury Dam for Winter Season
Prepared by: Shawn Everitt, Chief Administrative Officer

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report FAF.19.198, entitled "Agreement to Lower Thornbury Dam for Winter Season";

AND THAT Council direct staff to negotiate with the owner of the Hydro Generation Mill an agreement for the lowering of the Thornbury Dam for the 2019/2020 winter season that is consistent with the current 2018/19 agreement that expires November 1st, 2019;

AND THAT Council direct staff to consult with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to ensure acceptance of the Terms of the agreement and Thornbury Dam Operational requirements;

AND THAT Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer and Director of Operations to execute an agreement to allow for the Lowering of the Thornbury Dam for the 2019/2020 winter season.

B. Overview

This report requests that Council provide direction and authorization for staff to negotiate an agreement that is consistent with the 2018/2019 agreement that allowed for the Thornbury Dam to be lowered to assist with frazil ice conditions on the Beaver River.

C. Background

Over the past several years, when weather and river conditions favor the development of frazil ice in the Beaver River it has been evident that reactively lowering of the Thornbury Dam or having the Thornbury Dam proactively lowered earlier in the winter season dramatically helps with the flow of frazil ice conditions.

The Town has been extremely fortunate to have developed a strong and positive relationship with the owner of the Thornbury Dam Hydro Generation Mill and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to allow for the consideration of having the Thornbury Dam lowered.

D. Analysis

The 2018/2019 process that was completed to allow for the Thornbruy Dam to be lowered was a very positive experience and did require a significant amount of consultation.

Staff believe that the agreement that was executed in 2018 does not need any significant amendments and can be updated simply by the Term dates.

With direction and authorization of Council, staff can work in a timely fashion to have the agreement executed.

E. The Blue Mountains Strategic Plan

Goal #2: Engage Our Communities & Partners

Objective #1 Improve External Communication with our Constituents

Objective #3 Strengthen Partnerships

Goal #4: Promote a Culture of Organizational & Operational Excellence

Objective #2 Improve Internal Communications Across our Organization

Objective #3 To Consistently Deliver Excellent Customer Service

Objective #4 To Be a Financially Responsible Organization

Objective #5 Constantly Identify Opportunities to Improve Efficiencies and Effectiveness

Goal #5: Ensure Our Infrastructure is Sustainable

Objective #2 Avoid Unexpected Infrastructure Failure and Associated Costs and Liability

Objective #3 Implement Best Practices in Sustainable Infrastructure

F. Environmental Impacts

The lowering of the Thornbury provides proactive effectiveness in assisting with frazil ice conditions.

G. Financial Impact

The funding of the agreement is budgeted annually and is estimated at \$35,000.00 for the winter season.

H. In consultation with

Senior Management Team

I. Public Engagement

The topic of this Staff Report has not been subject to a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. However, any comments regarding this report should be submitted to Shawn Everitt, cao@thebluemountains.ca.

J. Attached

1. None

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawn Everitt
Chief Administrative Officer

For more information, please contact:
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