

Subject: Marlene Stewart Streit Park Hydro Meter Investigation

Recommendation:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2024-0121 Marlene Stewart Streit Park Hydro Meter Investigation, for information;

AND THAT Council direct staff to include a 2025 Capital Facilities Project in the amount of approximately \$7,400, required to reduce the number of hydro accounts from two to one, for 55 Park Lane, and 33 Park Lane Facilities.

Background:

At its regular meeting of March 27, 2024, Council endorsed the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to prepare a comprehensive staff report examining the five electricity meters within Marlene Stewart Streit Park, focusing on consolidation/reduction of the number of electricity accounts and related services;

AND THAT Staff address the potential implications of such consolidation/reduction on the IT capital project 05-24 Video Surveillance Upgrade at Marlene Stewart Streit Park;

AND THAT Staff report back to Council in Q2 of 2024

This report provides Council with the investigation results of the five electricity meters within Marlene Stewart Streit Park and the potential costs and savings realized through consolidation or reduction.

Analysis:

Marlene Stewart Streit Park (MSSP) is located on Park Lane, which is 30m west of Pelham Street along Regional Road 20. MSSP is a large Community Park with several amenities including, a skateboard park (former baseball diamond), splash pad (former outdoor hockey rink), a picnic pavilion, play structure, community pool, pool building which includes public washrooms, changerooms, and storage, and a Public Works storage facility.

The Public Works Storage Building (33 Park Lane) was once shared with Fonthill Hydro and later Niagara Peninsula Energy. Due to the cooperative use of this building, there was a necessity to attribute the use and cost of energy to the two co-habitants. As such this building has two separate electrical systems, meters, and accounts being 109507-00 and 109711-01. The building is used for equipment and part storage susceptible to freezing, and a small work area is utilized by the Facilities division under Public Works.

The Pool Building (55 Park Lane) has two separate electrical systems and meters. One measures the amount of electricity used by the pool building and the operation of the splash pad. The other is a legacy meter that was used historically to bill local sports leagues to illuminate the former baseball diamond.

The fifth electricity meter is located in the Pool Filter Room and is used to power the systems related directly to the operation of the pool.

Conceivably, one meter may be removed from both the Public Works Storage Building and the Pool Building. Preliminary quotes received to complete this work including the installation of new meter sockets and internal panel replacement and related wiring are in the range of \$6,400 and \$7,400.

There are no implications on the IT capital project 05-24 Video Surveillance Upgrade through the consolidation/reduction of electricity meters at MSSP.

Financial Considerations:

MSSP is within Niagara Peninsula Energy's (NPE) service area. NPE charges a fixed amount per account that is included in the "Delivery Fee" line of the bill along with a variable charge depending on consumption.

While NPE does not provide specifics on the fixed portion, staff believe it to be \$47.15 based on accounts with no monthly consumption. Removing two accounts will result in a monthly savings of \$94.30 and an annual savings of \$1,131.60 or a return on investment of 5.5 to 6.5 years.

Alternatives Reviewed:

Staff investigated further reduction of electricity meters and accounts including consolidating the Pool Building and Pool Filter Room however it quickly became apparent that the cost of completing this, compared to the potential fixed rate savings was simply not feasible.

Strategic Plan Relationship: Financial Health

Through the consolidation or reduction of two electricity meters with a onetime capital cost of \$7,400 will result in annual savings of \$1,131.60.

Consultation:

The Town of Pelham Facilities Technician, Accounts Payable Clerk, Niagara Peninsula Energy and Pelham Utility Sustainability Working Group were consulted in the authoring of this report.

Other Pertinent Reports/Attachments:

There are no other pertinent reports or attachments.

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