
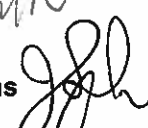


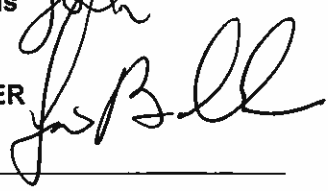
TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Non-Resident Fee – Springwater Township

PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT: S. Lee-Young, Manager of Recreation, ext. 5166

SUBMITTED BY: B. Roth, Director of Leisure, Transit & Facilities 

COMMISSIONER APPROVAL: J. Sales, General Manager of Community Operations 

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: JON M. BABULIC, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER 

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That the Non- Resident User Fee Agreement with the Township of Springwater for recreation programs and facilities be renewed for a four (4) year term effective March 1, 2011 to February 28, 2015 for a total fee of \$264,500 with the annual fees to be:

a) March 1, 2011- February 28, 2012	\$63,200
b) March 1, 2012- February 28, 2013	\$65,100
c) March 1, 2013- February 28, 2014	\$67,100
d) March 1, 2014- February 28, 2015	\$69,100

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

2. Several years ago the City of Barrie initiated a non-resident fee for participation by non-residents in the City of Barrie's leisure programmes and facilities, and a policy that provided residents with first priority for programme registration by restricting non-residents from registering for programmes until three days after the resident registration date commenced.
3. In 2000, the Township of Springwater approached the City of Barrie with a proposal to provide an annual lump sum fee on behalf of its resident, rather than individual Springwater residents paying the non-resident fee. In return Springwater residents would receive the same registration privileges as a City of Barrie resident.
4. By Council Motion 00-G-308, the City of Barrie entered into an initial agreement commencing in 2001 with the Township of Springwater. This agreement enabled the Township of Springwater to make a \$50,000 payment to the City and in return the City waived the non-resident fee for all residents of Springwater, who utilized City of Barrie recreational facilities and/or participated in recreational programs offered by the City of Barrie. Since 2004, this Non-Resident Fee has increased by 3% per year to a figure of \$61,400 in 2011. The current agreement expired February 28, 2011.
5. The Township of Springwater has remitted annual payments since the inception of this agreement in 2001.

6. Springwater Township staff have advised City of Barrie staff that the Springwater Township Council have unanimously approved to renew the Recreation Facility Non-Resident Letter of Agreement with the City of Barrie for a further term of four years to coincide with the terms for the two municipal Councils, effective March 1, 2011 to February 28, 2015.

ANALYSIS

7. Springwater wishes to renew the existing agreement which permits their residents to register at the same time as Barrie residents. They feel the annual fee is a fair purchase price for this service to their residents. They have agreed to an annual increase of 3% over the 4 years.
8. It should be noted that a large number of Barrie residents make use of Springwater facilities and programs and no non-resident fee is charged. Uses include :
- Approximately 300 Barrie children are registered in Springwater Soccer Association and play on Springwater fields.
 - Approximately 145 Barrie residents are members of the tennis club in Midhurst operated on municipal land.
 - 6 Barrie adult groups use Elmvale Arena on a weekly basis.
 - Barrie Ultimate Frisbee Organization uses Springwater fields for 9 tournaments in the summer.
 - The Barrie Community Sports Complex is located in Springwater and no taxes are charged for the facility, and the Township worked closely with the former Sports Park Committee to assist in the park's original development.
 - Barrie Flag Football utilizes 3 fields for 10 weeks annually.
 - Barrie Soccer Association utilizes approximately 1000 hours of fields
9. The \$63,200+ payment exceeds the non-resident fees that would be otherwise collected from Springwater residents (\$15,000 last collected in 2000) and provides some financial assistance towards operating costs associated with recreation programs and facilities.
10. In general recreation participation numbers have declined approximately 5% the past year and there have been no concerns with wait lists for Barrie residents to get into recreation programs. Capacity for additional participants does exist. Consequently during the term of this agreement, staff does not envision Barrie residents being unable to participate due to the participation levels of Springwater residents.
11. Renewing this agreement continues to foster a positive working relationship with the Township of Springwater which is mutually beneficial on various other initiatives.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

12. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation.

ALTERNATIVES

13. There is one alternative available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

The City could choose not to enter into an agreement with Springwater Township and revert back to the past format of any non-resident paying a non-resident fee, which would result in less revenue being generated and perhaps negatively affect the working relationship between the two municipalities.

FINANCIAL

14. The proposed agreement generates \$264,500 in revenue for the City over the next four years. This revenue is considerably more than what would be generated through standard non-resident program fees.
15. Since the recreation programs and facilities are operating for Barrie residents there are no increased costs to have Springwater residents participate. Thus the additional revenue is of assistance in reducing the overall operating costs.

LINKAGE TO 2010-2014 COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

16. The recommendation(s) included in this Staff Report support the following goals identified in the 2010-2014 City Council Strategic Plan:
 - ☒ Strengthen Barrie's Financial Condition
17. The recommendation in this Staff Report supports Council's Strategic Plan to Strengthen Barrie's Financial Condition as it relates to service provision options to other municipalities.