

Wheatland County

Request for Decision

Regular Council Meeting

April 21, 2020

Report prepared by: Dave Rimes



Carseland & District Community Association & Agricultural Society request for Utility Refund

Recommendation from Administration

THAT Council move to approve to refund utility charges of \$500.00 to the Carseland & District Community Association & Agricultural Society.

Chief Administrative Officer's Comments

N/A

Report

The County completed the Carseland Outdoor Rink project in the fall of 2019; it is maintained and operated by the Carseland & District Community Association & Agricultural Society (CDCA & AS). The new outdoor rink is approximately 9,500 sq. ft. larger than the older rink, which has been taken out of use.

In previous years the Carseland outdoor rink was flooded using a fire hydrant. The fire hydrant in this location is not self draining, and as a result not suitable for winter use for this application. Therefore, the CDCA & AS utilized the Carseland Community Hall as the water source to flood the outdoor rink for the 2019/2020 season. The water from the Carseland Community Hall is metered and charged to the Community Hall's utility account. The utility bill includes both water consumption and the wastewater charges.

Due to the increased utility costs incurred by the Carseland & District Community Association & Agricultural Society for flooding the outdoor rink, they are requesting a partial refund for the costs associated for the outdoor rink in January 2020.

In order to separate water usage for the Community Hall and the outdoor rink, staff referred to past utility bills from February to November 2019 and used an average to determine the Hall's monthly utility costs. Administration excluded January and December 2019, because water may have been used for flooding the outdoor rink during these months.

The average utility bill equates to approximately \$173 per month. The January 2020 utility bill amount was \$664.91 (see attached).

The breakdown of the difference outlined below:

January 2020 utility bill	\$664.91
Average monthly utility bill	-\$173.00
Net difference	\$491.91

Since the calculations are based on an average, the refund amount was rounded to \$500.00.

Relevant Policies, Practices, and Legislation

General Policy Section 3.17.6:

“Fees, charges and payments:

a) Upon determination that fees, charges or payments are subject to refund:

Authorization: That the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to refund fees, charges, or payments less than \$1,000.00 and that a summary of those refunds which are greater than \$250.00 be presented to Council.”

Alignment with the Strategic Plan

N/A

Response Options

Option 1: THAT Council accepts/approves the recommendation as proposed.

Option 2: THAT Council does not accept/approve the recommendation as proposed.

Option 3: THAT Council accepts/approves an alternate recommendation of Council’s choosing.

Implications of Recommendation

General

The not for profit community association will not be burden with the additional utility cost to provide this regional community recreation facility on County land.

Organizational

N/A

Financial

A refund of \$500.00 to the CDCA & AS will be made upon approval of the recommendation.

Environmental, Staff, and Public Safety

N/A

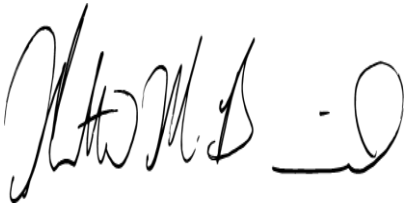
Follow-up Action / Communications

Administration will follow up with the Carseland & District Community Association & Agricultural Society with Council’s decision.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Carseland Community Association Request for Utility Refund Outdoor Rink.docx
Attachments:	- Utilities January 2020 adjustment Request.pdf - 4020.01_JAN 2020.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Apr 14, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Boscarol'.

Matthew Boscarol

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Henderson'.

Brian Henderson