

## Whitewater Region Council Summary

2024 General Operating and Capital Budget - Community Services

Full agendas can be viewed at [www.whitewaterregion.ca/council/meetings/](http://www.whitewaterregion.ca/council/meetings/)

Video is available on our YouTube page.

This summary does not constitute the official record of the meetings and approved Minutes should be consulted for that purpose.

### 2024 General Operating and Capital Budgets – Community Services



Parks



Tourist Booth



Economic  
Development



Arenas



Social Services



Libraries



Museum

- Operating grants to the Whitewater Region Public Library and the Ross Museum remain unchanged:
  - Library Operating Grant: \$80,700 (Expenses \$90,000)
  - Museum Operating Grant: \$4,150 (Expenses \$11,100)
- The Whitewater Seniors Home Support and Active Living:
  - Active Living will see a slight transition in the coming months as we await confirmation from the Province of Ontario on our success for the Seniors Active Living Centre Funding Application. Stay tuned.
  - Welcomes Julie Bennett who is serving as our new Age Well at Home Community Navigator (Home Support). She will be running the Meals on Wheels Program, the Frozen Meals Program, and other activities throughout Whitewater Region.
- The Tourist Booth and Economic Development remain funded in the 2024 operating budget which includes support for our volunteers at the visitor information centre, 2024 Taste of the Valley, and streetscaping (flowers, etc.)
- The 2024 operating budget maintains the same level of service for:
  - our numerous parks including inspections of the playground structures and general maintenance;
  - the Cobden and little lakes beaches;
  - our boat launches will remain open with continued investigation for improvements at the Westmeath Boat Launch; and
  - the recreation grants (\$10,000), with spring and fall intakes.

### Recreation Facilities

The 2024 operating budget ensures that the Cobden, Beachburg, and Westmeath recreation facilities remain open for the year by ensuring facilities are heated, lit, serviced by water and wastewater, and maintained.

## 2023-2024 Ice Season

In September 2023, Council approved the following for the 2023-2024 ice season:

1. Operation of two (2) facilities for the 2023-2024 ice season, Cobden and Westmeath Arena;
2. Provide the Beachburg Recreation Association with a one-time operating grant to support their implementation of ice operations in their facility (1) with a maximum operating grant of \$40,000 (including use of the ice resurfacer) in addition to the Township's in-kind contributions for insurance and services (insurance, snow removal); and
3. Immediately engage with the community regarding adaptive re-use for the non-ice facilities.

The 2023-2024 ice season is underway, and Councillor Bell and CAO Burton engaged with the prime user groups and recreation association on December 14, 2023.

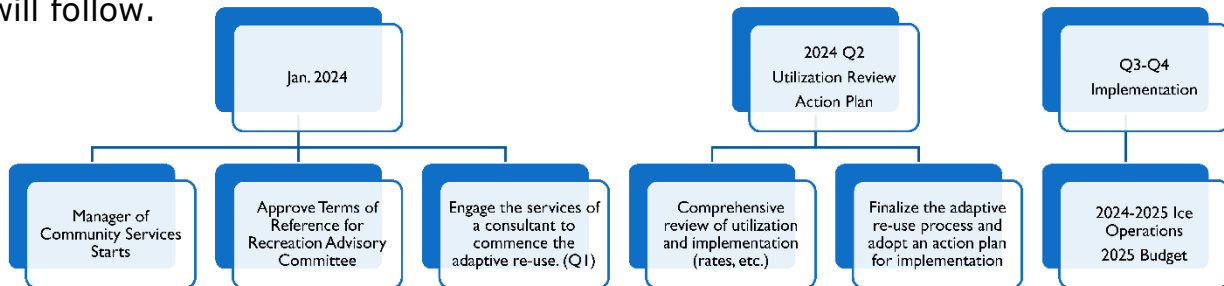
## 2024-2025 Ice Season

The 2024 operating budget was adopted to support for the operations of only one (1) ice facility by the Township for the 2024-2025 ice season. As such, the 2024 budget includes the operations of the Cobden and Westmeath arenas by the Township from January to March and the operation of only the Cobden arena from September to December.

The Township will continue to support local organizations to implement ice operations at other facilities and both the Beachburg Recreation and Westmeath and District Recreation Associations have expressed some interest.

### **2024 Next Steps**

Per the motion passed by Council, the Township is moving to examine the adaptive re-use of our recreation facilities. The following chart provides a path to successful change and more information and consultation with stakeholders will follow.



### **Finance & Administration**

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