

PETERBOROUGH UTILITIES COMMISSION REPORT

October 20, 2011

COMMISSION AGENDA
2011:10:27

PARK, GARDEN, RINK & SMALL POOL/SPRAYPAD SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Commission support community betterment through provision of free water service to the City of Peterborough-owned park, garden, rink and small pool/facilities;

AND THAT the installation of new City of Peterborough public park, garden, rink and small pool/spraypad services remain the responsibility of the City unless otherwise directed by the Commission;

AND THAT the Commission shall not support private requests for provision of free water services to park, garden, rink and small pool/facilities on public property.

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Submitted by: Wayne Stiver, Vice-President Water Utility Services

Approved for Submission by: _____
President & CEO

Background

Over the years, there have been many park, garden and rink services requested by the City. On occasion, we have also had private residences ask for a water service to a rink or garden that they construct and maintain for use by neighbourhood residents. The attached table (appendix) shows that there are numerous such services that are City-owned/operated, many of which are unmetered and unbilled. The list is the best information we have on these services, but it may not be a complete list.

Since the Commission is currently underway with full water metering within the City, the Commission should consider if these services are to be left unmetered and unbilled. Furthermore, the Commission should establish its position on private requests for rink or garden services on public property.

Management Discussion

There are a total of 43 unbilled and unmetered services owned and operated by the City of Peterborough:

- 1 park service
- 12 garden services
- 23 rink services
- 7 pool/spray post services

Many of these services have no building on the property and the only way to properly meter them or provide backflow protection if used during the winter (rink services) would be to install a meter/backflow preventer chamber at a significant cost. Staff do not believe that this is a feasible option for a water service used for only part of the year for most part.

The park services are generally metered and billed, especially where there is a building on the premise (such as a washroom, etc.).

In the past, shown by this list, the Commission has openly supported community betterment and this may well be the Commission's position going forward. Since the Commission contributes free service to these many publicly owned and operated facilities, staff see no reason to support requests from private citizens or groups for such facilities on public property.

Budget and Financial Implications

Since we have no flow information for any of the unmetered locations we can only estimate flow volumes and associated water costs under our current approved rates.

There is only one unmetered park service and the building at this location has been torn down. We do not believe there is water used currently at this location (Newall Beach).

Garden services can use a significant amount of water during the dry summer growing season. Rink services can be significantly utilized for at least a two-month period during the winter. Pools and splash pads are likely the largest of the unmetered water users for four months of the year. The volume and associated costs per site are estimated in the table below:

Service Type	Water Use Assumptions	Maximum Consumption per site per month (m ³)	Estimated Annual Cost based on Today's Rates (\$)
Garden	16 watering days/mo, for three months, 6 hours/day, one feed at 900 L/hr	87	\$560
Rink	2 months, 20 floods/mo, 2 hours/flood at 900 L/hr	36	\$350
Pool/Spray Pad	4 months, 5 days/wk, 8 hrs/day, 1000 L/hr	160	\$810

Using the estimated costs per year and the number of sites for each type, the estimated annual lost revenue for these unmetered and unbilled services is cumulative at \$20,440. These costs are only annual operating costs and do not include the capital cost of physically installing a new service. Staff believe the installation cost of the service should be the requester's responsibility (in this case the City of Peterborough) unless other instruction is provided by the Commission.

Risk Evaluation

There is only minor operating cost impact of supporting the City's rink, garden and small pool/spraypad facilities. If the Commission supports private requests for rink, garden or small pool/spraypad services, there would have to be many details worked out and agreements signed with people who may not be involved with these facilities in the future. Logistically, this is a difficult situation to properly address to provide due diligence for the Commission.

Attachments: Table of Garden & Rink Services, 2 pages

	Service	unbilled	unmetered	metered	backflow preventer
	Park Services				
1	Rogers Cove			√	√
2	Millenium Park (washroom)			√	√
3	Millenium Park (fountain)			√	√
4	Nichols Oval			√	√
5	Bonnerworth Park			√	√
6	Little Lake Marina			√	√
7	Crary Park			√	√
8	King Edward Park			√	√
9	McKellar Park			√	√
10	Bowers Park - washroom			√	√
11	Bowers Park - irrigation			√	√
12	Eastgate Park - snack bar			√	√
13	Eastgate Park - soccer club bldg			√	√
14	Beavermead Park - camp ground			√	√
15	Beavermead Park - washroom			√	√
16	Milroy Soccer Field			√	√
17	Jackson's Park			√	√
18	Newall Beach	√	√		

	RINK SERVICES				
1	Barnes Park	√	√		
2	Britton Carpet	√	√		
3	Centennial Park	√	√		
4	Dixon Park	√	√		
5	Earlwood Park	√	√		
6	Golfview Park	√	√		
7	Grove Tot Lot	√	√		
8	Hastings Park	√	√		
9	Inverlea Park	√	√		
10	Kawartha Heights Park	√	√		
11	Kinsman Park	√	√		
12	Mapleridge Park	√	√		
13	Northland Park	√	√		
14	Poplar Park	√	√		
15	Roland Glover	√	√		
16	Stenson Park	√	√		
17	University Heights	√	√		
18	Weller Cres	√	√		
19	John Taylor Park (wading pool)	√	√		
20	Victory Park	√	√		
21	Olympus @ Huron	√	√		
22	Amour Hill	√	√		
23	Stacy Green Park	√	√		
	Pools/Spray Posts				
1	John Taylor Park - McKellar (wading pool)	√	√		
2	Turner Park	√	√		
3	Knights of Columbus	√	√		
4	Otonabee (Chelsea Park)	√	√		
5	Barnardo Park	√	√		
6	Nichols Oval - splash pad	√	√		
7	Hamilton Park	√	√		