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Corporation of the Township of Brock

Staff Report to the Mayor and Members of Council

From:	David Tompkins
Position:	Manager of Recreation, Parks and Facilities
Title / Subject:	Cannington Historical Society
Date of Report:	June 21, 2021
Date of Meeting:	██████████ June 28, 2021
Report No:	2021-CO-██████████ 31

1.0 Issue / Origin

There are electrical issues regarding the security system and the hydro in and out of the buildings that may have been created from the installation of the haunted house on the property.

2.0 Background

In 2019 a building was erected by the Haunted Trail Committee that is on municipal property but not owned by the Township. This building sits within the Cannington Historical Societies buildings and was constructed to fit into the heritage theme of the village. Little is known at this point about the construction likely because people in the facilities role have moved on. What we know is since the building went in, the Historical Society buildings have been experiencing brown outs which is also affecting the security system. This is resulting in unintended alarm calls and members of the society often having to attend the site at all hours with nothing happening.

3.0 Analysis

A site inspection took place on May 7, 2021 with Staff and Councillor Schummer and met with Ted Foster to better understand the problem which was first reported to the Township by Mr. Foster during a presentation to Council in 2019. After this meeting, a further meeting was held with Todd Bowen who is one of the electricians the Township uses. It is felt at this point that the intermittent power issues are likely due to a damaged wire somewhere in the system around the new building and the Train Station building which is where the main alarm panel is.

During the inspection it was also noted that there was an extension cord running out of the back of the building attached to a power source in the wooded area behind the building. It is understood that the new building

does not have power but based on our observation they require power thus the extension cord. Staff have concerns about an extension cord bringing power into the building via an extension cord, for obvious reasons. If power is required by the group, then a proper panel should be installed in this building to allow them to have power and not use long extension cords to power a building off an exterior power supply from the trail.

At the May 21, 2021 meeting with Bowen Electric it was determined that there were numerous code violations that need to be addressed. Some are related to the power supply and others are related to powering up the Haunted Trail Committee building.

4.0 Related Policies / Procedures

None at present

5.0 Financial / Budget Assessment

At this point we do not have a cost for the repair and therefore it is difficult to have people quote on the work. We have spoken with Bowen Electric recently and they have indicated that the total cost of the repair would be under \$10,000 including the repairs to the Haunted Trail Group's building. A proper quote will be requested before any work would be started. Given this is a safety concern we are interested in having Bowen Electric dig up the line and do the necessary repairs with funds to come from our operation budget.

6.0 Communications

Staff will report to council as work progresses of our repairs. Staff will also come back to Council after they have met with the Haunted Trail group regarding their power supply issues and how they wish to address this.

7.0 Conclusion

We have two issues to address. One is fixing the power supply to ensure it is consistent and addresses the continuous alarm malfunctions at the Museum site.

The second issue is advising the Haunted Trail Committee that they cannot bring power into the building by the method they have been doing so. We would recommend that they install power to their building if they require it and that it not be addressed with extension cords. Given the cost of this work, Council may wish to consider bridging them a loan to cover this cost and have the group pay it back over a couple of years, since they are the sole occupant of this building.




8.0 Recommendation

That Council receive this report as presented;

That Council grant permission for staff to proceed to have the electrical repairs completed to address the brown outs and malfunctioning alarms that the Historical Society has had to deal with since 2019.

That Council also provide consideration and direction as it relates to future power supply for the Haunted Trail building. In that consideration should be whether the Township is comfortable providing the initial funding for the work with the understanding that the group would pay this back within a couple of years.

This will allow staff to have the discussion with that group around the issues of how they are bringing in power.

Title	Name	Signature	Date
Manager Facilities, Parks and Recreation	David Tompkins		June 22/2021
Director of Operations	Paul Lagrandeur		June 22/21
Chief Administrative Officer	Ingrid Svelnis		June 22/ 2021