



Corporation of the Township of Brock

Staff Report to the Mayor and Members of Council

From: Wayne Ward
Position: Manager Facilities and IT
Title / Subject: Boat Launch and Harbour Students
Date of Report: April 18, 2023
Date of Meeting: April 24, 2023
Report No: 2023-PRF-010

1.0 Issue / Origin

For the past number of years Brock Township has employed students to work at the Beaverton Harbour boat launch.

2.0 Background

Beaverton Harbour is the only usual location for boat launching in Brock Township that is publicly accessed. The harbour students have been in place for multiple years acting as cashiers for boat launch fees and to provide information on Beaverton and Brock Township.

3.0 Analysis

Using the GL actual numbers for expenditures and revenue the following has been observed.

Expenditures including wages, CPP, EI, EHT and WSIB totalled:

- 2022 \$35,820
- 2021 \$40,363
- 2020 \$17,651 (COVID Restrictions in place)
- 2019 \$29,352
- 2018 \$25,063

Revenue for the same periods were:

- 2022 \$23,281
- 2021 \$22,201
- 2020 \$20,210

- 2019 \$23,240
- 2018 \$23,386

These revenue numbers include Beaverton and Thorah Island seasonal berthing slips revenue. With the berthing revenue removed the following numbers represent the actual revenue brought in through the harbour students.

- 2022 \$2811 collected; 420 free uses with lost revenue of \$5,370
- 2021 \$5,334 collected; 399 free uses with lost revenue of \$5,985
- 2020 \$0 (Covid Restrictions in place)
- 2019 \$2560 collected; free uses not tracked but lost revenue of \$5,550
- 2018 \$2895 collected; free uses not tracked but lost revenue of \$2,535

As you can see the revenue from the boat launch fees in comparison to the wages is quite substantial. The wages and revenue for the 2020 year should be excluded from this comparison due the COVID 19 restrictions.

Additionally, the students are restricted in what duties they can perform at the harbour as per the Collective Agreement with the Union. As these students are paid less than the casual rate of pay, they are not included in the number of casual employees permitted but are restricted in the duties they can perform which. These restrictions do not allow these staff to pick up garbage, clean the docks or similar items. Therefore, the students were observed sitting reading and engaging in similar activities.

4.0 Related Policies / Procedures

5.0 Financial / Budget Assessment

With a five year total of wages and mandatory costs of \$148,249 and a revenue of \$13,600 there could be substantial savings if this position is not filled.

6.0 Climate Change Impacts

None

7.0 Communications

None

8.0 Conclusion

Although the premise of these students was to act in the capacity as a Tourist Information Officer there is already a similar position filled through the Brock Board of Trade. Through the direction of Council to allow all Brock Residents free boat launching there is reduced revenue being generated. The students are not trained or equipped to address persons who refuse to pay for boat launching and/or refuse to provide proof of residency.

While I feel providing an opportunity for a student or two for summer employment, I do not feel we are getting a good return on investment at this time.

I believe the Waterfront Area and Open Space plan will provide insight into the boat launch and berthing as the plan is brought forward and accepted by Council.

9.0 Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Committee receive Report 2023-PRF-010, and

THAT Committee direct staff to not post for summer employment for the position of Tourist Information Officer, and

THAT this position be reviewed as part of the Waterfront Area and Open Space Plan, and

THAT this recommendation be brought forward for Council approval on the meeting of April 24, 2023