



Office of the CAO

Prepared for: Regular Council

Report: CAO-04-2025

Meeting Date: March 31, 2025

1. Title

Land Committee Meeting Minutes – March 20, 2025

2. Recommendations

That: Council receives the March 20, 2025, Land Committee meeting minutes attached as Appendix “1”, and further

That: Council authorizes the entry into a new Licence Agreement with the Crystal Beach Business Improvement Area Board of Management (CBBIA) for the purposes of a Farmer’s Market with an automatic renewal clause for the use of the Erie Road Parking Lot (“the Grove”), and further

That: Council authorizes the entry into a Licence Agreement for a 2025 pilot project between the Town of Fort Erie, the Crystal Beach Business Improvement Area Board of Management (CBBIA), and Jam Sport for the use of “the Grove” for the construction and operation of volleyball courts, subject to the provision of a certificate of insurance in the amount of \$2 million naming The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie, the Crystal Beach Hill Cottagers’ Organization, and the CBBIA as additional insured, with the further conditions that no evening games take place and no alcohol be permitted on-site.

3. Relation to Council’s Corporate Strategic Plan

Land Committee Minutes are provided to Council together with recommendations associated with property and land matter requests.

4. List of Stakeholders

Residents, organizations and businesses of Fort Erie as contained in the report.

5. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to ensure that members of Council are provided with current land information and staff’s deliberations associated with the land matters discussed at the March 20, 2025, Land Committee meeting.

Land Committee minutes are intended to be presented to Council for approval on a regular basis.

While not all reports will provide recommendations for Council's deliberations, they will provide background information on land matters discussed.

6. Analysis

Attached as Appendix "1" to the Report is a copy of the March 20, 2025, Land Committee meeting minutes.

The Committee passed two recommendations related to:

- 1) Continued use of the Erie Road Parking Lot ("the Grove"), by the Crystal Beach BIA for the purposes of a Farmer's Market; and
- 2) The entry into a Licence Agreement for a 2025 pilot project with Jam Sport for the use of "the Grove" for the construction and operation of volleyball courts.

As the pilot project is time sensitive, the Land Committee report has been placed on the Regular Agenda of March 31, 2025 and the By-law to enter into the Licence Agreement, if authorized by Council, will come forward at the April 14, 2025 Council-in-Committee meeting.

Members of the Land Committee will be in attendance during Council's deliberation to answer any questions arising from the minutes.

7. Financial, Staffing and Accessibility (AODA) Implications

Detailed in the March 20, 2025, Land Committee meeting minutes.

8. Policies Affecting Proposal

By-law No. 168-91, as amended, established and appointed members to the Land Committee. The By-law sets out the role of the Land Committee and defines mandates and responsibilities of the members. The Sale of Land Policy is governed by By-law No. 60-2017. Encroachments are governed by the Town's Encroachment Policy governed by By-law No. 89-07, as amended.

9. Comments from Departments, Community and Corporate Partners

The Land Committee is represented by the Mayor, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Director of Corporate Services, the Director of Planning and Development Services, the Director of Infrastructure Services and the Manager, Economic Development and Tourism Services. The Executive Director of the Fort Erie Native Friendship Centre also attends the Land Committee meetings, when available.

Other staff members are invited to participate in the Land Committee meetings depending upon their specific duties, responsibilities and specific area of expertise.

10. Alternatives

While Council has the option to decline the two requests from the Crystal Beach BIA, doing so is not recommended. The BIA has a proven track record of successfully hosting Farmers' Markets at this location and aims to further enhance community engagement by organizing additional

events in “The Grove”. These initiatives not only attract tourists but also encourage longer visits, contributing to the local economy and fostering a vibrant community atmosphere.

11. Communicating Results

Not applicable.

12. Report Approval

Prepared and submitted by:
Bev Bradnam, DPA, CMM III

Manager of Corporate and Community Initiatives

Approved by:
Chris McQueen, MBA
Chief Administrative Officer

13. Attachments

Appendix 1 – March 20, 2025 Land Committee Meeting Minutes