



Municipality of the District of Argyle

Item: West Pubnico Golf Club

Date: May 10, 2022

VISION

We see Argyle as home to a healthy and thriving rural population. Our municipality promotes and supports economic and social opportunities for the region and engages in the active expression of our unique Acadian heritage. We are a place of choice for rural living and are widely recognized for our warm hospitality and joie de vivre. Surrounded by fresh air and cool ocean breezes, we work and play in the great outdoors. People choose to live in Argyle because of our commitment to each other, to our community, and to our neighbors. Argyle is a place we are proud to call home.

Request:

The West Pubnico Golf Club (WPGC) made a presentation to council this winter explaining the financial issues facing the club. They recently submitted a grant to organization application for \$8000 for capital projects.

Background Information:

The West Pubnico Golf Club (WPGC) is one of largest recreation assets in the Municipality. During COVID, this recreation facility became a great place for resident to relax and enjoy the game of golf. It was also used as a green space for walking, snowshoeing, skiing etc. This organization recently changed to a nonprofit organization and have made changes on how they operate their business and are trying to attract new members. They have introduced a new incentive for new female golfers and has now organized, with the assistance of our recreation department, a junior golf program. This facility is a gem and has many functions for the municipality such as a great club house that can hold different functions such as meeting, weddings, dances, etc. This facility also helps with the recruitment and retention of professionals in the area such as doctors. It also attracts new families in the area.

Current Situation

The club is in dire needs for an additional funding stream to assist with capital projects such as updating their carts, cart paths and mowing equipment etc. During our grants to organization meeting last week, council indicated that they would like to support the WPGC with their \$8000 funding request and council also indicated that we should be provide funding for this organization on a more long-term basis.

Suggestions

Option #1 Council agrees to a long-term commitment to the WPGC for the next 3 years at \$8000/year

Option #2 Council agrees to a long-term commitment to the WPGC for the next 5 years at \$8000/year

Option #3 Council agrees to 1 year commitment for \$8000 for the 2022-2023 budget year only. This would be paid under special event fund and not the grants to organization fund

Recommendation:

Recommend Option #2, as this is a very important asset to our Municipality and would be a huge loss if this nonprofit organization would close its doors. A 5-year commitment would be justified and welcome by this organization. This commitment would help them plan for future capital projects. This would also show the municipality support in the well-being of our residents with this long-term commitment to our largest recreation facility.

Suggested motion.

Move that Council approve a 5-year commitment for capital projects to the West Pubnico Golf Course at \$8000 per year commencing the 2022- 2023 fiscal year and to be revisited in the 2027-2028 fiscal year.