



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 1
Grants Committee
May 13, 2019

TO: Chair and Members of Grants Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed

Jane Fraser, CFO/Director of Finance, Asset Management & ICT
Original Signed

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: March 5, 2019

SUBJECT: Transfer of Funds – Community Grants Program 2017 – Status Update

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

May 8, 2018 – Council approval for the transfer in the amount of \$50,000 from Operating Account M311-8004 Community Grants to the General Contingency Reserve Q421 to be held pending confirmation that the two (2) capital projects could proceed in fiscal year 2018.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter (“HRM Charter”), S.N.S 2008, c.39.

79(1) The Council may expend money required by the Municipality for

...

(av) a grant or contribution to

...

(v) any charitable, nursing, medical, athletic, educational, environmental, cultural, community, fraternal, recreational, religious, sporting or social organization within the Province,

...

(vii) a registered Canadian charitable organization.

BACKGROUND

In 2017, two organizations granted a capital grant of \$25,000 under the Community Grants Program were unable to proceed with the project within the fiscal year (by March 31, 2018) and were granted a one-year extension. Council approved the transfer of funds from the Community Grants Program to the General Contingency Reserve.

DISCUSSION

Under the Community Grants Program protocols, the recipient of a grant must provide a final report and proof of expenditures by March 31. If the project is incomplete, the organization can request an extension of up to one (1) year and eligibility for additional funding is suspended. In 2018, two (2) capital grants were withheld pending confirmation of funding and an ability to proceed¹:

1. A capital grant in the amount of \$25,000 to the Sack-A-Wa Canoe Club towards construction of a new 9,200 sf sport facility on First Lake in Lower Sackville. The project required approval of a re-zoning application and confirmation of both provincial and federal funding, or an alternate funding source, to demonstrate an ability to proceed with the project as proposed in the grant application to HRM. The original application projected costs to be \$475,000 but were subsequently amended to \$1,500,000. In February 2019, the Government of Canada announced \$436,000 in funding and the Government of Nova Scotia confirmed \$722,000 in funding. The project also received \$72,000 under the HRM District Capital Fund for consulting services (concept and construction plans). The \$25,000 from the HRM Community Grants Program held in reserve was issued in February 2019. As of the date of this report, the Club has raised \$1,255,000 and had a balance of \$245,000 to raise through their capital campaign. The grant of \$25,000 represents ~2% of total costs. HRM's combined contribution to date would total ~5% excluding any costs incurred in re-zoning.
2. A capital grant in the amount of \$25,000 to the Sheet Harbour Chamber of Commerce towards the purchase of floating docks for a multi-phased marina development project were held pending confirmation of \$150,000 in federal funding requested by the society from ACOA. Applications to ACOA were declined in both 2017 and 2018. Additional applications were made to the 2018 NSCC Rural Innovation District Fund, and the federal government's Community Opportunity Readiness Program. The original application projected costs to be \$175,000 and HRM's grant would represent ~14%. The society is unable to meet the terms and conditions of funding and cannot not undertake the marina development project in fiscal year 2018. On March 4, 2019, the society withdrew their funding request. No further action is required: the grant is forfeited.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications in fiscal 2019-20.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at halifax.ca or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead Grants & Contributions, Finance, Asset management & ICT 902.490.5469

¹ Report to the April 18, 2018, meeting of the Audit & Finance Standing Committee, Community Grants Program 2017 – Transfer of Funds from M311-8004 to General Contingency Reserve Q421, dated February 12, 2018. Approved by Regional Council at their meeting of May 8, 2018, Item 14.2.1.