

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, January 11, 2013				Report Date	Thursday, January-03-13			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	x	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
REPORT TITLE									
CIIF Project Report #11/01/13/1102									

Subject: As per our agreement with the Federal Government the hall expansion project is to commence in March or April of 2013.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council approve the following resolution authorizing staff to proceed with the hall/kitchen/library expansion project.

WHEREAS the Municipality of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria has been successful in obtaining grant funding through the Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund and is required to proceed to meet agreed upon deadlines;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby authorize staff to hire a design firm to meet with Council and staff as soon as possible to commence the planning process.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Because this is a public building, a designer is required to draft and engineer plans. This has been costed into the initial estimates. The project commencement date is March or April of 2013 depending on spring thaw. Plans need to be started.

We have tossed around the idea of using volunteer labour to assist with some aspects of the building. Advertising to determine availability of volunteers and their skill sets, for a general contractor and for interested individuals to participate in planning should begin soon.

Once Council makes the decision to proceed, and provides overall direction for the content of the project it should be recognized that it is then staff responsibility to carry out the plans as per Council general direction and the agreement with the Federal Government.

Options/Discussion: Council needs to make a decision as to whether or not it wants to proceed with this project and accept the terms of the agreement.

Timelines need to be set. The May Madness event and/or the Missing Link Appreciation Dinner may need to be modified or cancelled. Depending on the timing of building, we may be able to build around these events with outside prep work continuing until after these dates. It may be possible to limit the time that the hall is unavailable for use.

Council has heard from members of the public and there are as many views on this project as there are people. It must be considered that some views expressed were based on inaccurate information and opinions changed during the course of the public meeting.

Council needs to lead this decision and provide direction to staff as soon as possible so that we will be in a position to meet funding requirements.

Perhaps inviting a small number of residents (1-2) to participate in the planning stage may provide a solution to increased participation but will alleviate the challenges with a large debate which is not usually constructive. Again, once overall direction has been provided, it is up to staff to carry out Council direction.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact: Funding has been approved. Existing reserves and 2012 surplus funds meet Council's commitments.

Policy Impact: - according to policy. Includes public input.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,

Municipal Clerk

Melinda Reith