



Subject: Lease Agreement (No. 66-1476) with St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation – Notice of Termination

Report to: Thorold City Council

Recommendations

1. That Council **APPROVE** the termination of Lease Agreement (No. 66-1476) between the City of Thorold and the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation.

Key Facts

- On September 5th, 2000, Thorold City Council entered into a Lease Agreement with the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation for the purposes of a future Nature Park on designated historic heritage lands situated on the east side of Davis Rd. between Old Thorold Stone Rd. and NR 57 (Thorold Stone Rd.) (see Appendix 1).
- The Lease expired in March 31st, 2018, and was extended until March 31st, 2022, which has now expired giving the City no right to renew or extend the Agreement. (see Appendix 2).
- The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation is however, seeking the City of Thorold's interest in renewing the lease for one (1) year and has advised the City that it may divest itself of the premises in the near future.
- The City of Thorold has not advanced the development or improvement of the subject lands over the 22-year term of the Lease.
- Council has recently advanced its plan to develop the Battle of Beechwood Park on the southeast corner of Old Thorold Stone Rd. and Davis Rd. to acknowledge and commemorate the historic events that occurred in this area of our community.

Budgetary Status

The Lease Agreement specifies an annual rent payment of seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750) plus HST. This lease payment is funded from the annual Operating Budget.

Analysis

The subject lands generally follow the flood plain of both the north and south branch of Shriner's Creek. Any activity including trail construction or intensification will require approval from the appropriate environmental agencies.

The City of Thorold has not advanced any plans to improve or modify this property nor was there any reference in the Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan.

The Battle of Beechwood Park is located in close proximity and, once completed will recognize the historic events that occurred in this area leading up to, and during the Battle of 1812.

Alternatives Reviewed

Alternatives to the termination of the Lease Agreement include future land acquisition.

Relationship to Strategic Plan

Responsible Community Growth and Infrastructure Planning: General Strategy

Other Pertinent Reports

Prepared and Recommended by:

Geoff Holman

Director

Public Works and Community Services



Approved and Submitted by:

Manoj Dilwaria

Chief Administrative Officer

Appendices

Appendix 1 Lease Agreement NO. 66-1476

Appendix 2 Request for Renewal Letter, dated June 1st, 2022.