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## MANAGEMENT REPORT

**Date:** June 15, 2023  
**To:** Community Services Sub-committee  
**From:** Tim Wolfe, Director of Community Services  
**Report #:** COM23-007  
**Attachments:** None

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**Title:** Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association Agreement 2023 - 2028

**Objective:** To consider entering into an agreement with the Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association for use of the ball diamonds at Anne Hathaway Park.

**Background:** The Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association (SMGSA) has used the Anne Hathaway Park ball diamonds for many years, but an official agreement wasn't put into place until 2003. At that time, the SMGSA required an official agreement for their use of the diamonds as they were applying for an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant to undertake park improvements.

The original agreement expired January 31, 2008 and was renewed for five years to January 31, 2013, for another five years to January 31, 2018 and then again for another five years to January 31, 2023.

**Analysis:** The Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association and Community Services Department are in favour of entering into an agreement for a further five years.

For use of the ball diamonds at Anne Hathaway Park, the Association:

- pays the City \$13.00 plus HST per player as per their registration, or the amount approved by Council in the Community Services Department Fees and Charges Schedule (approximately \$5,000 per season);
- is responsible for the routine cleaning and minor maintenance of the softball complex including all costs incurred;
- pays all water and sewage costs; and is
- responsible for maintaining all diamonds.

## **Financial Implications:**

### **Financial impact to current year operating budget:**

For 2023, SMGSA will pay \$13.00 plus HST per participant (approximately \$5,000) as approved by Council in the Community Services Department Fees and Charges Schedule. Yearly water and sewage charges are also recouped from SMGSA for the concession booth at the facility.

### **Financial impact on future year operating budget:**

For future budgets, SMGSA will pay the amount per participant as approved by Council in the Community Services Department Fees and Charges Schedule. Yearly water and sewage charges will also be recouped from SMGSA for the concession booth at the facility.

### **Link to asset management plan and strategy:**

The agreement states that the Association is responsible for all capital improvement projects proposed for the softball complex by the Association. All capital projects that are approved are to be funded entirely by the Association.

### **Insurance considerations:**

The Association will provide commercial general liability insurance against claims for personal injury, death or property damage or loss in the amount of not less than Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000).

## **Alignment with Strategic Priorities:**

### **Strengthening our Plans, Strategies and Partnerships**

Partnering with the community to make plans for our collective priorities in arts, culture, heritage and more. Communicating clearly with the public around our plans and activities.

### **Developing our Resources**

Optimizing Stratford's physical assets and digital resources. Planning a sustainable future for Stratford's resources and environment.

## **Alignment with One Planet Principles:**

### **Health and Happiness**

Encouraging active, social, meaningful lives to promote good health and wellbeing.

**Staff Recommendation: THAT the agreement between The Corporation of the City of Stratford and the Stratford Minor Girls Softball Association be entered into for a five (5) year term to January 31, 2028;**

**AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk, or their respective delegates, be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Corporation.**

**Prepared by:** Tim Wolfe, Director of Community Services  
**Recommended by:** Tim Wolfe, Director of Community Services  
Joan Thomson, Chief Administrative Officer