

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LARDER LAKE

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November 12, 2019

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs 1 Stone Road West, Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2 minister.omafra@ontario.ca

Dear Mr. Ernie Hardeman:

Re: Main Street Revitalization Grant - Extension request

In the summer of 2018, we were advised that we were allocated main street revitalization funding. On September 4th, 2019 Municipal senior staff reached out to the representative of the distributing agency of these funds (AMO) to request an extension on the spending of the funds. Staff were told that we are not the only Municipality that has enquired about an extension but that no formal response has been received from OMAFRA to AMO about allowing an extension.

An email follow-up was sent to AMO on October 7th to see if any progress had been made on granting extensions. The email also included the following list of reasons why an extension is REQUIRED:

- We were advised of the funding in summer of a Municipal election year
- Council not knowing if they were going to be re-elected did not want to choose a project for the funds
- An entirely new Council was elected in October and sworn in in early December.
- Council orientation and 2019 budget took precedence on choosing a project
- Council has recently (end of August 2019) chosen a project.
- The project requires work outside in reasonable temperatures.
- The temperatures in Northern Ontario are not stable enough till may to perform the project.

The response from AMO, which was received on the same day, was the following:

"Thanks for this, Julie. We've outlined several these reasons in our letter to OMAFRA. I'm hopeful that I'll have some more information soon."

We have been also been told to select an alternative project that would be eligible. In small towns there are certain items that are more critical than others. In our case having our landmark refurbished is the main project we would like to get done with this funding. An alternative project will not have the same visual impact. We are pleading that you provide an extension to this funding soon as possible. The request is that the project funding be extended till end of July 2020.

If you require more information please do not hesitate to contact our office at 705-643-2158. Yours truly,

Lulie Bouthillette

Julie Bouthillette, CAO /Clerk-Treasurer

Cc: Adam Garcia <u>AGarcia@amo.on.ca</u>

Lorna Ruder <u>lruder@amo.on.ca</u> (Please share with AMO board)

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69 Fourth Avenue, Larder Lake, ON

Phone: 705-643-2158 Fax: 705-643-2311 MOVED BY: SECONDED BY: Motion #: 24 ☐ Thomas Armstrong ☐ Thomas Armstrong Resolution #: 0 ☐ Patricia Hull ☐ Patricia Hull Date: November 12, 2019 Paul Kelly ☐ Paul Kelly ☐ Lynne Paquette Lynne Paquette WHEREAS Council has discussed and edited the letter to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs; And THEREFORE, Council directs staff to send the letter with this attached resolution as endorsement to the letter; And FURTHER that the letter also be sent to Premier Doug Ford, Our local MPP and all other Municipalities in Ontario. I declare this motion Recorded vote requested: Carried For Against Tom Armstrong □ Lost / Defeated Patricia Hull ☐ Deferred to: (enter date) Paul Kelly Because: Lynne Paquette ☐ Referred to: (enter body) Patty Quinn Expected response: (enter date) **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest*** Chair:

^{*}Disclosed his/her (their) interest(s), abstained from discussion and did not vote on this question.