

Report LTCR-SS-08-15

To: Chair Burley and Members of the Social Services Committee
From: Jennifer Cornell, Administrator, Grey Gables
Meeting Date: June 25, 2015
Subject: **Consulting for Capital Projects**
Status: Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution SSC72-15; Endorsed by County Council August 4, 2015 per Resolution CC114-15;

Recommendation(s)

WHEREAS Interior Lighting, at a cost of \$35,000, and Whirlpool Tub Replacement, at a cost of \$90,000, are identified in the 2015 approved capital budget;

AND WHEREAS staff recommend that additional research and consultation occur before proceeding with these projects;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report LTCR-SS-08-15 be received;

AND THAT up to \$5,000 from each of the 2015 Interior Lighting and 2015 Whirlpool Tub Replacement capital projects be used for consultation purposes to prepare for the work;

AND THAT the completion of the projects proceed in subsequent years as identified in future capital budgets.

Background

Interior lighting and whirlpool tub replacement was originally scheduled for 2015. On review of these projects, staff recommends that additional research and consultation occur to ensure the best solution is implemented.

Interior Lighting

The lighting at Grey Gables is T8 fluorescent lighting fixtures which is original to the home construction. The lighting does not meet the current legislated requirements for lux in bedrooms and common areas.

The original project was budgeted at \$35,000 and staff are requesting that up to \$5,000 from the approved 2015 capital project be used to pursue consultation to identify the best solution for a retrofit. This will also allow staff an opportunity to explore any provincial incentive programs that may apply to the project.

The balance of the approved 2015 project will be deferred for completion in 2016.

Tub/Shower Room

Bathing can cause increased anxiety and responsive behaviours for people with dementia. By improving the environment, residents will be calmer, staff safety will be enhanced and work flow streamlined.

The home has three tub rooms and three shower rooms. These rooms are original to the building and have not been updated in 15 years. The equipment is nearing the end of life expectancy and staff recommends that a review occur to identify the best solution to meet comfort and safety needs for the residents while maintaining a safe work environment for the staff. Staff are requesting up to \$5,000 from the 2015 whirlpool tub replacement project to hire a consultant who will make recommendations based on best practices for dementia care to create a spa like environment. The proposed project will include equipment, plumbing, ventilation updates and décor with completion scheduled in the capital budgets for 2016 and 2017.

Financial / Staffing / Legal / Information Technology Considerations

Additional research and consultation on two capital projects (Interior Lighting, Tub and Shower Room Upgrades) will support staff in making informed decisions on the best solution to maximize safety for staff while maintaining a comfortable, safe environment for residents. The cost is estimated at \$5,000 for each of these projects and staff recommends that it be funded from the 2015 approved capital budget (Interior Lighting, Whirlpool Tub Replacement).

Link to Strategic Goals / Priorities

The upkeep, maintenance and replacement of equipment assist in achieving excellence in service, as identified by Goal #6 in the Grey County Strategic Plan.

Attachments

None

Respectfully submitted by,

Jennifer Cornell
Administrator, Grey Gables

Director Sign Off: *Lynne Johnson, Director of Long Term Care*