



## Town of Onoway Request for Decision

Meeting:	<b>Council Meeting</b>
Meeting Date:	February 22, 2024
Presented By:	Gino Damo, Director of Corporate and Community Services
Title:	Onoway Ball Diamonds Funding Update

### **BACKGROUND / PROPOSAL**

During the April 28, 2022 Council Meeting, Council made the following motion regarding the ball diamond upgrades:

#### **Motion #191/22 – April 28, 2022**

**MOVED** by Councillor Bridgitte Coninx that Council authorize the allocation of the remaining \$22,000 from the sale of Lot 16, Block 3, Plan 6288BZ to the following projects, both are subject to Town approval of plans: 1) community hall improvements \$11,000.00 and 2) ball diamond upgrades \$11,000.00 (once an agreement is in place between the Town of Onoway and Lac Ste. Anne County).

Subsequently during the March 23, 2023 Council Meeting, Council made the following motion regarding the ball diamond upgrades:

#### **Motion #091/23 – March 23, 2023**

**MOVED** by Councillor Bridgitte Coninx that Council revise Motion 191/22 to waive the requirement for an agreement with Lac Ste. Anne County and upon submission of a quote, the funds in the amount of \$11,000.00 to be released to the Onoway Ball Association; and final project pictures and invoice summary be provided to the Town.

**CARRIED**

### **DISCUSSION / OPTIONS / BENEFITS / DISADVANTAGES**

Last November, Administration contacted the Onoway Ball Association for an update on the ball diamond upgrades. The Onoway Ball Association replied requesting to build new shelters for the existing players benches; Administration requested that a quote be submitted as per Motion 091/23.

While waiting for the quote, Lac Ste Anne County provided the attached letter to Administration inquiring funding for the Onoway Ball Diamonds. For background purposes, Northern Gateway Public Schools owns the land the Onoway Ball Diamonds are on, Lac Ste Anne County recently entered into an agreement with Northern Gateway Public Schools to operate and maintain the Ball Diamonds and track area. Onoway Minor Ball Association and Swede Moren Ball Association are the primary users of the diamonds; which are open to the general public.

The attached letter provides background and anticipated work to be done listed below:

- Leveling and seeding/sodding the playing fields, shaping and adding new shale to the infields – completed in 2023, some maintenance work needed for 2024.

- Weed and rodent control – ongoing annual requirement.
- Spectator bleachers (removal replacement) – removal completed in 2023. (Quote attached.)
- Fencing repairs (quotes attached).
- Park features and amenities (bleachers, new outhouses, garbage receptacles, picnic tables (quote attached), etc.).
- Dugouts.
- Washrooms and concession facilities.

As the designated operator of the ball diamonds and entity leading the rejuvenation project LSAC is requesting that the \$11,000 funding be released to the County rather than the Onoway Ball Association. Onoway Minor Ball Association is aware of this request and is cc'd on the attached letter.

Attached quotes and estimates are high level for the purpose of building a budget. LSAC will follow its procurement policy with the requirement of additional quotes where applicable.

#### **STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

- Service Excellence
- Good Governance
- Economic & Business Growth

#### **COSTS / SOURCE OF FUNDING**

\$11,000 funding is budgeted as a transfer from unrestricted surplus/reserves (Revenue GL 1-71-00-4770) and as a Rec Tax (Expense GL 2-71-00-767) in the 2024 Operating Interim Budget.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

1. That Council revise Motion 091/23 to redirect the release of funds in the amount of \$11,000.00 to Lac Ste Anne County for the Swede Moren Ball Rejuvenation Project.
2. (Or some other direction as given by Council at meeting time).

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- Lac Ste Anne County letter Re: Swede Moren Ball Park Rejuvenation Project.
- Swede Moren Ball Park Rejuvenation Project – Budget.
- Spectator Bleacher Quote.
- Fencing Estimate.
- Picnic Table Estimate.



February 20, 2024

Town of Onoway  
Box 540  
Onoway, AB T0E 1V0

Attn: Gino Damo, Director of Corporate & Community Services

Re: Swede Moren Ball Park Rejuvenation Project

Although the community and its' volunteers have worked hard to keep the Swede Moren Ball Park (also known as the Onoway Ball Diamonds) in good repair, the age of the facility is demonstrating the need for rejuvenation. With the lands being located within the Town of Onoway, owned by the Northern Gateway School Division, leased by Lac Ste. Anne County, and used by the minor ball league, adult ball leagues, youth programs, the school and the community – there are a number of players at the bat.

The County initiated a Swede Moren Ball Park Stakeholders Committee to brainstorm both the needs and desires for this facility. Councillor Bridgette Coninx participated in these conversations. Together with this common goal, the Committee developed a unified strategy that realizes the efforts and joint work that needs to occur to bring this project to fruition.

There are some immediate needs to address health and safety components, but we have also identified an objective to develop a site that is a more welcoming and enjoyable environment with improved park amenities. A phased approach (funding dependent, really) has been developed with the immediate planned activities to include:

- leveling and seeding/sodding the playing fields, shaping and adding new shale to the infields – completed in 2023; some maintenance work needed for 2024,
- weed and rodent control – ongoing annual requirement,
- spectator bleachers (removal and replacement) – completed the removal in 2023
- fencing repairs
- park features and amenities (bleachers, new outhouses, garbage receptacles, picnic tables, etc.)
- dugouts,
- washrooms and concession facilities.

Attached is a high-level budget, and copies of quotations/estimates where available.

Through recent discussions, we understand that the Town of Onoway Council passed a resolution (#091/23) at their March 23, 2023 authorizing the release of \$11,000 to the Onoway Ball Association with conditions. As Lac Ste. Anne County is the designated operator of this facility, and is leading the rejuvenation project, we respectfully request that the funds be released to the County instead.

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In anticipation of the project proceeding, a stakeholder meeting will be called in the near future, again inviting the Town to participate. Status and budget reports will be provided to ensure all partners are kept informed of the developments of this initiative.

Any questions can be directed to the undersigned at 780-785-3411/1-866-880-5722 or via email at [tcourt@LSAC.ca](mailto:tcourt@LSAC.ca).

Regards,



Trista Court  
General Manager of Community Engagement

c.c. Onoway Minor Ball Association



*A dynamic partnership*  
Onoway Minor Ball Association  
Swede Moren Sports Association  
Northern Gateway School Division  
Town of Onoway  
Lac Ste. Anne County

Swede Moren Ball Park Rejuvenation Project



A dynamic partnership  
 Onoway Minor Ball Association  
 Swede Moren Sports Association  
 Northern Gateway School Division  
 Town of Onoway  
 Lac Ste. Anne County

### Swede Moren Ball Park Rejuvenation Project

#### Project Budget

	Budget	Actual to Date
<b>Expense</b>		
Leveling and seeding/sodding the playing fields, shaping and adding new shale to the infields x 3 diamonds (\$5,000 per)	\$ 15,000	\$ 12,989
Spectator Bleachers x 2 at each of 3 diamonds (\$1,750 ea +transport)	\$ 10,350	\$ -
Fencing and backstop repairs x 3 diamonds (per 05.10.2023 Quote + 10% contingency)	\$ 18,140	\$ -
Signage - 2 entry ways, diamond numbers, contact information, etc.	\$ 8,000	\$ -
Park amenities (picnic tables \$1,750 x 5; garbage receptacles \$1,000 x 5; other \$2,000)	\$ 15,750	\$ -
Baseball Dugout x 2 at each of 3 diamonds (\$10,000 ea ... high level, no quotes)	\$ 60,000	\$ -
Concession/Washroom Facility x 1 (\$100,000 ea ... high level, no design/quotes)	\$ 100,000	\$ -
<b>Expense Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 227,240</b>	<b>\$ 12,989</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Lac Ste. Anne County (Motion 233-2022)	\$ 25,000	\$ 12,989
Town of Onoway - Request	\$ 11,000	
Grants	\$ 131,120	
Sponsorship & Donations	\$ 55,000	
Fundraising	\$ 5,120	
<b>Revenue Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 227,240</b>	<b>\$ 12,989</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Note: Regular Operating Costs - expensed to Lac Ste. Anne County

- Outhouse Rental
- Insurance
- Maintenance
- Weed & rodent control