



STAFF REPORT

Title: Request for Funding - Cold Lake Fighter Jets - April 14, 2020 Delegation

Meeting Date: April 28, 2020

Executive Summary:

Cold Lake Fighter Jets representatives Mr. Damen Schaub and Mr. Andrew Heliotis appeared as delegates at Council's April 14, 2020 regular meeting of Council.

Mr. Schaub and Mr. Heliotis presented Council with a power point presentation wherein they requested Council consideration in providing \$10,000.00 to establish a program (not just a team) in an effort to continue to bring high level football to the region and provide an outlet for graduating high school students.

Mr. Schaub and Mr. Heliotis advised that the locally owned and operated Cold Lake Fighter Jets are a non-profit, senior men's football team and are proudly the only regional team in the Lakeland with 40-50 local and national players which have been undefeated at home. With a training camp in Bonnyville and former ties to Lloydminster, the Jets received an incredible reception in 2019 from the entire region, including fans from Cold Lake, St. Paul, Bonnyville, and surrounding areas. There are seven (7) teams in the league this year wherein the Jets will have three (3) home games and two (2) playoff games.

Mr. Schaub and Mr. Heliotis advised that the Cold Lake Fighter Jets have a budget of \$50,000.00 (most of the budget will be used for travel, equipment, player's insurance, field use costs, and referees). The Jets are looking to showcase local talent and the area through visiting fans and those new to AFL Football. The Jets hope to host a national championship (2020 AFL winner will be host to Ontario Champion).

Mayor Copeland thanked Mr. Schaub and Mr. Heliotis for their presentation advising that Council would consider the request at their next meeting of Council being April 28, 2020.

Background:

Based on the Government of Alberta's announcement on April 23, 2020, administration understands that Albertans are prohibited from attending any summer events that have 15 or more people. At this time this includes major sporting events. Based on this knowledge, administration doesn't recommend forwarding any cash funding to the Cold Lake Fighter Jets.



Council could provide facility use credits in the event that the Alberta Football League was to commence.

In its' 2020 budget, Council budgeted \$193,000 for sponsoring functions, goodwill, and other activities for the staff and community. The following is a breakdown of the available funding:

- Council General - \$20,000
- Recreation Grants - \$20,000
- Culture Grants - \$20,000
- Community Capital Grants - \$50,000
- Community Events Sponsorship Grants - \$20,000
- Doctor Recruitment - \$18,000
- Special Events Incentives - \$30,000
- Gifts - \$15,000

All of the above highlighted programs are going to be recommended to Council by the Council Committees.

Of Councils' General Goodwill, to date, without consideration of this request or any others on the April 28, 2020 agenda, \$2,600.00 (Cold Lake Alpine Ski Society \$2,500, CLMHA \$10,000 (event cancelled due to COVID-19), and Kids Time Out Play Program \$100) plus a venue Sponsorship \$3,924.00 towards the RCMP Regimental Ball (event cancelled and rescheduled to September 25, 2021) has formally been allocated from the 2020 Council Goodwill budget by motion of Council.

Alternatives:

Council may consider the following alternatives:

- That Council accept the Cold Lake Fighter Jets delegation presentation made at the April 14, 2020 regular meeting of Council as information, and provide the association with a \$10,000 credit for the use of the Thomas Varghese Field for 2020.
- That Council accept the Cold Lake Fighter Jets delegation presentation made at the April 14, 2020 regular meeting of Council as information, and respectfully decline to provide funding to the cold Lake Fighter Jets.

Recommended Action:

That Council accept the Cold Lake Fighter Jets delegation presentation made at the April 14, 2020 regular meeting of Council as information, and respectfully decline the opportunity to provide sponsorship.



Budget Implications (Yes or No):

No

Submitted by:

Kevin Nagoya, Chief Administrative Officer