

December 11th, 2024

For Council Consideration for the December 16th – Council Meeting

Re: D-3-1- Committee-of-the-Whole-Report-Dated-December 9th, 2024

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

I am writing you with regards to the motion that was passed at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on December 9th, 2024 as per outlined below:

B.6.1 Kevin Rostami and Tom Kern, Georgian Bay Community Racquet Centre Re: Four-Court Tennis Development Leveraging Existing Town Assets at 130 King Street West

THAT Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receive for information the deputation of Kevin Rostami and Tom Kern, Georgian Bay Community Racquet Centre Re: Four-Court Tennis Development Leveraging Existing Town Assets at 130 King Street West; AND THAT Council direct staff to provide a staff report in response to the requests contained in the deputation of the Georgian Bay Community Racquet Centre, by the end of March, 2025. CARRIED

You have directed staff to provide a report specific to the requests contained in the deputation.

I request clarification as to what happened to the Motion passed on November 18th, 2024 and then subsequently the approval of the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes on December 2nd, 2024, as per outlined below:

Recommended (Move, Second)

THAT Council receive Staff Report CSOPS.24.063, entitled "Options for use of 130 King St. West Property".

AND THAT Council directs staff to complete a community engagement process to consider recreational uses of 130 King St. West.

AND THAT Council directs staff to include \$10,000 to complete a community engagement process in the 2025 proposed budget.

Recommended (Move, Second)

THAT the recommendations found within the Committee Reports included on the December 2, 2024, Council Agenda are approved by Council, as recommended, less any items requested for separate review and discussion. D.3.1 D.3.2 E. Committee of the Whole Report dated November 18, 2024

We, as a community need clarification on these two motions. Where is the public consultation we were promised? As the motion on November 18th states there is 10K set aside and suddenly we're now told that we need to wait until March 2025 for something Council already passed. Why the wait? The minutes of December 9th need to be pulled, and the motion rescinded and replaced with the November 18th motion at the December 16th meeting of council. Or at the very least, further discussion on the Motion from November 18th needs to take place, so staff understand that they still need to engage the stakeholders/taxpayers in this community and not some interest group outside of this

community on the future uses of 130 King Street West. Please assure us that this interest group will not be included in the survey as this would be an injustice to the stakeholders/taxpayers of The Town of the Blue Mountains.

I can assure you that my neighbours and I have **not been** contacted or asked to complete a survey with regards to suggested uses for 130 King Street West.

Why is this Council giving special consideration to Georgian Bay Community Racquet Centre over the stakeholders/taxpayers who live and pay taxes to this community. It was clear at the meeting on December 9th that most of the individuals who spoke and wrote in support of this deputation live in an area from Owen Sound to the east end of Wasaga Beach. Except for some of them residing in the Town of the Blue Mountains, they are not taxpayers in this community and should not have a say about lands that are owned by the stakeholders/taxpayers of The Town of the Blue Mountains.

Based on the motion approved at the meeting on December 9th, this community has been overlooked and the motion passed at the Committee of the Whole meeting on November 18th has been ignored. Mr. Gibbons was given a clear direction to engage this community not special groups outside of this community.

It has been stated that the Town has our taxpayers' funds (365 K) and plans to build new tennis courts somewhere in the community in the very near future. The town has plenty of other locations for this proposed Racquet Centre.

What is the dedicated parkland funding for this area of the town. Is the town prepared to purchase land to fulfill the requirements under the Official Plan. Outside of 130 King Street West, where are you going to purchase land to give us our parkland. There is no land to purchase from the Little Beaver River to Lora Bay. You took money in lieu of parkland from Lora Green Development and now it leaves you with no choice but to dedicate 130 King Street West as the parkland/greenspace to this residential area and not to accommodate a special interest group for their use.

This is so unfair to ignore this community of taxpayers over a group who have not been successful in other communities and see an opportunity in a piece of land with two small tennis courts on it in a huge retirement residential area in this community.

There is a pattern developing in this community – come to Council as a deputation, direction is given to staff to complete a report based on the deputation, the report then supports the needs of the deputation all without the input of the community.

I have done some research on these inflatable structures for racquet courts, and they are very noisy. The structure is mechanically forced with air to remain inflatable. That is why municipalities do not allow them to be erected near residential areas. They are placed on the outskirts of communities or in industrial areas.

We want what was promised to us before March 2025; can we run our own survey that will be included in the staff report as well (NB: Bay Street East never had their petition with over 2,000 signatures included in any staff report).

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Sholtz and Michael Seguin

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