



Subject: Awarding RFP 2023-02 – Commercial Food Vending at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park

To: Council

From: Corporate Services Department

Report Number: 2023-88

Meeting Date: May 9, 2023

Recommendation:

That Corporate Services Department Report 2023-88 be received; and

That Council approve entering into a lease agreement with PL8 of Fries food vendor for the purposes of food vending operations at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park; and

That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the lease agreement and By-law, attached as Appendix A.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to enter into a lease agreement with PL8 of Fries for Commercial Food Vending at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park.

Background:

At the June 8, 2020, Council meeting, Council authorized the Director of Community and Economic Development to proceed with the removal of the Icebox facility at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park. Staff used funds allocated towards the project to demolish and remove the former Icebox Food Concession building, install electrical, water, and wastewater service for food trucks to operate and create a functional landscaped site with aesthetically pleasing features with minimal maintenance elements for the 2021 operating season and the redevelopment to be completed in 2022. The site renovation project was completed in 2022.

Recreation staff issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the commercial food vending operations at H.H. Knoll Park, which closed on April 11, 2023. Staff received one

submission, from PL8 of Fries food truck. It was the intention of staff to have two food trucks operating out of the H.H. Knoll Parkette in 2023 however, only one proposal was received.

Discussion:

PL8 of Fries food truck is proposing to operate out of the H.H. Knoll Parkette on a permanent basis for the duration of the operating season, as defined in the lease agreement, which is from the Victoria Day weekend to Labour Day weekend.

PL8 of Fries offers a menu that includes french fries, poutine, onion rings, various subs, hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken fingers, fish and chips, tacos, and various other items. PL8 of Fries operators possess over 30 years experience in the food service industry. This experience includes festival and events, operating restaurants in Welland, and operating out of a semi-permanent food truck in Welland for three years. PL8 of Fries worked with the City in 2022 as a food vendor at the Canal Days Concert Series.

Internal Consultations:

Recreation staff will work with the facilities staff to ensure that the PL8 of Fries has access to utilities before the opening date.

Financial Implications:

In 2022, the City charged the food vendors at the H.H. Knoll Parkette a flat seasonal rate of \$5,000. Staff recommend the seasonal rate be reduced to \$4,000. The change in price is suggested based on feedback received from the food vendors in 2022 and discussions regarding food truck vendors with other municipalities.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

The initiative contained within this report supports the following pillar(s) of the strategic plan:

- Attracting Business Investment and Tourists to Port Colborne
 - City-Wide Investments in Infrastructure and Recreational/Cultural Spaces
 - Value: Financial Management to Achieve Financial Sustainability
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Conclusion:

In conclusion, staff recommend that Council approve entering into a lease agreement with PL8 of Fries food vendor.

Appendices:

- a. H.H. Knoll Parkette Lease Agreement By-Law PL8 of Fries

Respectfully submitted,

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Report Approval:

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final review and approval by the Chief Administrative Officer.