

Committee: Committee of the Whole
Administration and Finance

Date: February 10, 2020

Department: Economic Development

Topic: Job Site Challenge Application

Purpose: To recommend engaging the Township's planner of record to assist with the application under the Job Site Challenge.

Background: Council has been discussing nominating the Provincial Land Bank properties, known as the "Cedar Grove Road Site" to the Ontario Job Site Challenge since the program was announced in February of 2019.

The window for applications is open from now until March 31, 2020.

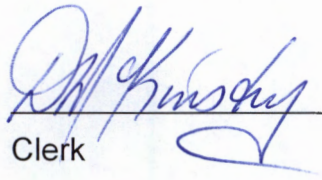
With the significant staffing changes that have taken place over the past three months, it does not appear that there are internal resources available to develop and submit a fulsome application.

Township staff and the Mayor met with the Township's planner of record, Mr. Steve Pentz from Novatech and Mr. Lee Sheets who is an engineer with that firm, on January 23, 2020 and explained the proposal as well as the Township's concept and intended response.

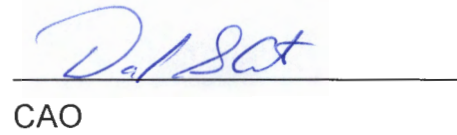
Mr. Pentz and Mr. Sheets have now reviewed the Job Site Challenge RFS and provided the attached proposal to take a lead in preparing the proposal in response to the RFS.

Financial Impact: The consulting firm has estimated \$25,000 plus HST for the project. While the subject lands are not within the Edwardsburgh Industrial Park, if the application is successful it may lead to a significant industrial development within the Township. Therefore, it is reasonable to utilize the Industrial Park Land Reserve as a source for funding this proposal. The current balance in the Industrial Park Land reserve as of December 31, 2019 is \$525,318.12.

Recommendation: That Committee recommends that Council authorizes staff to engage Novatech to take the lead in preparing the Township's submission to the Job Site Challenge in accordance with their proposal dated January 31, 2020, and further directs that the cost of the project be covered from the Industrial Park Land Reserve Fund.



Clerk



CAO