

District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL
Memorandum

Date: June 24, 2024	File: 530.20/Rpts
To: Council	From: Chief Administrative Officer and Public Works Manager
Re: Bandshell Security	

Purpose

To provide Council with an update and next steps on the bandshell security issue which was previously discussed at past Council meetings.

Background

Multiple break-in attempts have occurred at the Bandshell in the last few years. We now have valuable equipment stored inside and a video security or facility alarm system would be beneficial to provide some level of protection for the facility and the assets. (For reference, the Report to Council from the June 10, 2024, meeting is attached for information only.)

Update

After reviewing the site for potential security solutions, it was determined that the best and most cost-effective solution would be to install a video/picture-based solution. Although facility alarm systems can be useful, often theft still occurs and there is no clear evidence of what happened prolonging RCMP investigations that generally are not successful in retrieving the stolen items.

Video surveillance on the other hand provides an opportunity to visually see what occurred. In other municipalities, the RCMP has been successful with utilizing these types of images and videos to determine who was responsible for the theft and the courts have been able to prosecute based on this type of evidence.

To fully utilize such video surveillance devices, Council must establish a policy regarding the storage, use, and access of picture/video footage that meets or exceeds privacy legislation and complies with guidelines of the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) for BC.

Staff have already ordered video surveillance signage to notify the public of potential video surveillance presence on-site and deter any additional break-in attempts at this time.

Finances

No additional costs to the 2024 operational budget are anticipated as the device is estimated at less than \$300-500 and the cost would be absorbed within the already approved budgets. Monthly subscription plans per device are maximum \$15 per month, so \$180 per year.

Next Steps

Given all of the above, and Councils desire to implement a reasonable security solution, Staff intends to proceed with the following next steps unless Council instructs Staff otherwise:

- Prepare a Video Surveillance Policy for Council consideration (anticipated to be brought to Council for the July 15, 2024, meeting).
- If approved, Staff would complete a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) thereafter to be in compliance with provincial legislation.
- If the Policy is approved, Staff would also procure and install a cost-effective camera solution with cellular technology for transmitting images and alerting Staff who in return can alert 9-1-1 depending on the severity of the issue.

At this time the alert process is not determined and will need to be adapted over time; however, the following has so far been discussed: alerts would be sent to on-call staff or Public Works Manager. Staff would then inform 9-1-1 based on the issue at hand.

Other Future Opportunities

If the Video Surveillance Security Policy is adopted by Council, Staff would review other high-risk areas to potentially install similar equipment to enhance the protection of key assets such as the Well sites and the Public Works storage area at the septage receiving site where multiple attempted break-ins have been reported and some theft has occurred in the past. Council would be updated as part of the highlight report on the identified locations and if surveillance equipment was installed.

Attachments

- Previously Received Report from the June 10, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council

Alternative Options

1. If Council would like Staff to install an Alarm System instead of proceeding with the Next Steps listed above, Council should pass a motion to that effect.
2. Council could also determine not to proceed with any security solution at this time and pass a motion to that effect.

Prepared by:

C. Matthews, Public Works Manager

D. Drexler, Chief Administrative Officer

District of Barriere
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: June 10, 2024	File: 530.20/Rpts
To: Council	From: C. Matthews, Public Works Manager
Re: Bandshell Security System	

Background:

Multiple break-in attempts have occurred at the Bandshell in the last few years. We now have valuable sound equipment stored inside and a proper security/alarm system is necessary.

Discussion:

Staff have received a quote to install and monitor an alarm system. The alarm company has also provided costs for an optional camera inside the bandshell, as well as other locations that have experienced vandalism. At a minimum, Staff recommend the installation of an alarm system at the Bandshell. The cost for the alarm system materials and installation is estimated at \$2000 with the purchase of a 3-year monitoring agreement. Basic monitoring at this facility will cost \$34.95 per month plus GST (see attached quotation).

Staff will be researching options for a budget-friendly security camera that could provide live feeds inside when motion is detected. As the security system was an unforeseen cost, the purchase and monthly monitoring of the alarm system could be funded by general surplus.

Recommendation: That Council approve the purchase and installation of an alarm system from Peace of Mind Security Systems Inc. for an amount not exceeding \$2,000.00 plus taxes, including entering into a monthly monitoring agreement in the amount of \$34.95/month for Bandshell security with the funds coming from General Surplus.

Prepared by: C. Matthews, Public Works Manager
Reviewed by: T. Buchanan, Acting CAO