

# Town of Saratoga

11-19-2023

## Wading Pool Rehabilitation

### Background

The wading pool also known as the baby pool is located adjacent to the primary swimming pool for the community. This small pool is roughly 16 by 20 feet in dimensions and a foot and a half deep. Over time the pool has decayed causing water quality issues forcing the Town to shut it down. The condition of this pool led it to be added to the special purpose tax ballot as a priority, along with repairs to the deck surrounding the pool. An investigation into the development of a project to repair the pool began approximately two months ago. The staff brings forth this memo as a document of findings.

### Project scope

With the assistance of a contractor who works on, builds and repairs pools we walked through several options for the future of the pool. Below are various options that we discussed.

#### 1. Solutions

- a. This would involve all new equipment, chemical feed, heater, and an entire demo of the pool. This option would be extremely expensive because the entire thing would need to be upgraded to today's standards, which could also mean some repairs to the large pool.
- b. This option includes demoing the stairs some of the deck and installing a rigid fiberglass liner, this would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> most expensive option but would require a large amount of work and cost due to the fact fiberglass liners don't come in those dimensions. We would have to modify the size of the pool to accommodate one of these. This would also include a new, properly sized heater and cartridge filter.
- c. Another option and as far as repair goes, the most economical was, demoing the surrounding deck, stairs and a repairing portions of the pool. After this a replaceable vinyl liner would be installed along with a new filter and properly sized heater. This option would allow the liner to be replaced in the event it rips or fails in the future.
- d. The last option that was explored was demoing the pool, filling it in and pouring a new slab of deck over it. This is the cheapest option regarding the future of the wading pool.

## Timeline

Due to the cost of any of the repair options we would need to go through a formal bid process to get a contractor on board. It would be hard to say when they would be able to complete the project. Many contractors that are in this line of work are booking for the following season and will be booked out for 2024 soon. If a demo and pour over replacement is chosen, this would open up the project to a lot more contractors due to the lack of specialization.

## Budget

Originally when the special purpose tax budgets were developed, the cost for this project was estimated to be \$71,450.00 for the wading pool repairs and \$103,200.00 for pool deck repairs. The language for the projects show them working together to complete the rehabilitation.

The only repair option that was explored deeply for cost was the vinyl liner adaptation. This option with new operating equipment including filter and heater was approx.. \$125,000.00. This does not include the demo of the stairs and the surrounding deck nor the repour after the pool is renovated. If we proceed with the project that we estimate that additional cost to come in at an additional \$45,000.00 to \$60,000.00 This brings the total cost of the project to just under \$200,000.00

## Funding

The sole source of funding for this project comes from special purpose tax. The original estimated amounts were \$71,450.00 for wading pool repairs and \$103,200.00 for deck repair at the pool. It is important to note that when using special purpose tax there are multiple projects that have largely increased in cost. Any project that is done potentially takes funding away from another project on the list.

## Solution Table

Option	Pro's	Con's
Repairing pool w/Vinyl liner	Continues autonomous pool use for small children.	Short term cost and long term maintenance requirement. Continues safety issues and increased water quality monitoring. Decreased deck size.
Demoing pool and pouring deck over it	Lower cost short term, limited maintenance, eliminates safety concerns and additional water quality monitoring.	Eliminates autonomous pool use for small children.

## Conclusion

In closing this may be a difficult decision to make. There are good arguments for either path forward. If I were to be asked, moving forward I think from an operational, financial, and liability stand point it makes sense to reclaim the wading pool and pour a deck over it. The deck needs repair anyway which is relevant to the main large pool, so that is cost the is going to accrue either way. When it comes to the repairs on the wading pool it would seem the con's outweigh the pro's. At the end of the day it is up to the Council and Mayor. We could put a bid package together and see what happens if that is what you would like to do. Thank you for taking the time to look this information over.

Thank You,  
Emery Penner