



TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

REPORT

Item No.

REPORT TO: Reeve Vincent and Members of Council
PREPARED BY: David Sparling, Director of Fire and Emergency Services
DATE: 21/02/2017
SUBJECT: Pre-budget approval required for FDNH capital items
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby authorizes single source procurement and pre-budget approval for the purchase of fire coats and pants ("bunker suits") at an estimated cost of not more than \$36,900.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Personal protective equipment for firefighters has an approved life of 10 years. FDNH has a significant amount PPE expiring in 2017 that needs replaced prior to budget approval.

DISCUSSION

FDNH has 14 sets of gear to be replaced in 2017 plus 1 set to fit a new firefighter. Delaying purchase of this equipment until budget approval will mean personnel are wearing gear that is past its 10-year life cycle.

All FDNH bunker gear has been purchased from PPE Solutions since 2010. As well as all of the obvious advantages of using the same provider for all of our bunker suits, it also means that when we have two pairs of pants (or coats) the same size, they really are the same size; when we are measuring personnel for equipment fit this makes it easier for us to search existing inventory for proper fitting gear. Additionally, our sales representative lives in Teeswater, which saves us shipping costs on small purchases (he delivers it to us).

With approximately 45 personnel and a 10-year lifespan it is reasonable to assume 4-5 sets of gear need replacement annually, however, in 2007 Blyth & Wingham purchased a combined 14 sets, plus we require 1 for a new firefighter.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

FDNH did not have a PPE inventory management system in place until late 2013. As a result, the long-range budget assumes a replacement rate of 4-5 sets of PPE per year. In order to purchase this gear, a transfer of not more than \$36,900 from capital reserves is required, as the operating budget struck 3 years ago was not made with this purchase in mind.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

2018 and 2019 PPE purchases will be considerably smaller. This transfer from capital reserves is not part of the current long-term budget with our contract partners, and these funds will have to be replaced in the 2019 onwards agreement.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 3. Our community is healthy and safe.

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David Sparling
Director of Fire & Emergency Services

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized 'S' and 'C'.

Sharon Chambers, CAO