

To: David Creery, Chief Administrative Officer
From: Harold de Haan, City Engineer
Re: Purchase of a Replacement Transit Bus

AIM

To obtain City Council approval to purchase 1 NOVA bus.

BACKGROUND

If Council approves the purchase of a new transit bus in 2025, the Capital Budget will have \$750,000 budgeted for the purchase of a new bus this year. The 2025 bus purchase will be a replacement of an older, currently owned bus.

The bus is slated to be purchased using Provincial Dedicated Gas Tax funds.

Staff received a quote of \$639,952.00 excluding taxes from Nova for a new 40' low floor bus, which is below the budgeted amount. The remaining funds in the budget will be used for painting and installation of radios, fare boxes, GPS and other equipment.

The City's Procurement of Goods and Services Bylaw requires all purchases exceeding \$50,000 to be made only after formal tenders have been called.

COMMENTS

Public and transit staff commentary on the Nova bus has been positive. Staff is very satisfied with the performance and quality of the bus and the service provided by the manufacturer. Having one manufacturer in the fleet makes maintenance and repairs more efficient. Given the City's satisfaction with Nova and the importance of maintaining a fleet of similar buses for parts stock and mechanic training, Staff feel that it would be advantageous to continue to purchase Nova buses.

Nova has advised that only electric buses will be manufactured after this year. If the City wishes to purchase one of the last diesel Nova buses, the order needs to be in before the end of 2024 (Note: a deposit is not required at this time). After 2025, the City will need to investigate other options for the purchasing of diesel transit buses and/or buses that are powered by alternative energy sources.

RECOMMENDATION

That Woodstock City Council waive the tendering requirements of Municipal Code Chapter 376 – Procurement of Goods and Services and authorize the purchase of one 2025 Nova transit bus in the amount of \$639,952 plus HST.

Authored by: Harold de Haan, P.Eng., City Engineer

Approved by: David Creery, P.Eng., MBA, Chief Administrative Officer