

To: David Creery, Chief Administrative Officer
From: Jeff Slager, Fire Chief
Re: Fire Apparatus Funding and Purchase Approval

AIM

The purpose of this staff report is to request Council's approval for additional funding for project FIR00026 – Replace Fire Apparatus Engine 1 (ALF Pumper), and to approve the purchase of the Pierce Stock HDRP Pumper from Commercial Emergency Equipment Co. to the amount of \$1,400,000 including applicable taxes.

BACKGROUND

On December 15, 2022, Council approved Capital project FIR00026 – Replace Fire Apparatus Engine 1 (ALF Pumper) in the amount of \$1,000,000 with funding of \$830,000 from the Purchase of Fire Equipment reserves and \$170,000 from the Hydro reserves accounts.

On March 16, 2023, Council approved the Woodstock Fire Department revenue fund budget, which included an increase to the annual Fire Equipment Reserves account in the amount of \$225,000, resulting in additional funds within this reserve account that had not been included to establish funding for Capital project FIR00026 – Replace Fire Apparatus Engine 1 (ALF Pumper).

At the May 4, 2023, City of Woodstock Council meeting, Council approved the involvement of the Woodstock Fire Department within the Canoe Procurement Group of Canada for the cooperative purchasing of a new fire apparatus.

The vendor of choice for the Woodstock Fire Department within the Canoe process is Commercial Emergency Equipment Co. (Commercial), supplier of apparatus manufactured by Pierce Manufacturing. Fire suppression personnel are familiar with the configuration and operation of existing Pierce apparatus already in the fleet. Training and familiarization of personnel will be eased significantly by procuring a product made by the same manufacturer.

COMMENT

The current manufacturing lead time for a spec-designed pumper is approximately 24 months, barring any parts shortages. Presently, Commercial has a select number of stock pumper apparatus either in-line for construction or nearing completion. These stock apparatuses remain at the price-point established at the time construction started, thereby presenting an immediate costs savings over new, spec-built apparatus and greatly reduce the time to delivery.

The Woodstock Fire Department purchased a Pierce Manufacturing stock apparatus during the replacement of an aerial device in 2020, resulting in us receiving an apparatus with more options than initially planned for a better price than a spec-built apparatus (at that time) and the time of delivery changing from upwards of 14 months (at the time) to 4 months.

A review of the available stock apparatus that meet the specifications of the Woodstock Fire Department for this project has resulted in the steering committee selecting the Pierce stock HDRP Pumper. This apparatus is classified as a Rescue Pumper and is currently priced lower than a spec-build Pumper only apparatus. There will be some post-delivery alterations required to the stock vehicle including cab repainting to match our current fleet and the addition of blue emergency lighting. These costs have been included in the total funding request.

The price point for the selected apparatus is \$1,400,000 including applicable taxes, resulting in an approved funding deficit of \$400,000. Accounting for the additional \$225,000 currently in the Purchase of Fire Equipment reserve account, an additional \$175,000 is required, with the request for it to come from the Hydro reserves account, bringing the total Capital funding from Hydro reserves to \$345,000. Further, repayment of this \$345,000 from Hydro reserves, if approved, would be reimbursed through future Purchase of Fire Equipment reserve account contributions.

RECOMMENDATION

That in respect to Capital project FIR00026 – Replace Fire Apparatus Engine 1 (ALF Pumper) Council approves:

- 1) The additional funding in the amount of \$225,000 from the Purchase of Fire Equipment reserve account.
- 2) The additional funding in the amount of \$175,000 from the Hydro reserves account.
- 3) The repayment of the total amount of \$345,000 from future contributions to the Purchase of Fire Equipment reserves to the Hydro reserves accounts.
- 4) The purchase of Pierce stock HDRP Pumper from Commercial Emergency Equipment Co. to the amount of \$1,400,000 including applicable taxes.

Authored by: Jeff Slager, Fire Chief

Approved by: David Creery, M.B.A., P. Eng., Chief Administrative Officer