

Request for Decision

P6M Initiative - Open Air Burning Permits

Presented To: Finance and
Administration
Committee

Presented: Tuesday, Nov 17, 2015

Report Date Wednesday, Oct 28,
2015

Type: Managers' Reports

Recommendation

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury approves, in principle, the implementation of an opening air burning permit system which will require amendments to both the Open Air Burning By-law and the associated user fees in the Miscellaneous User Fee By-law.

Finance Implications

If approved, this initiative will result in an increased revenue of \$10,000 which would be included in the 2016 operating budget.

Background

Although the City of Greater Sudbury has an Open Air Burning By-law which regulates the terms and conditions for setting open air fires, permits are only required for brush and crop residue fires. Fire Services is requesting, in principle, changes to both the Open Air Burning By-law and the associated user fees in the Miscellaneous User Fee By-law to support the issuing of residential open air burning permits. By requiring a permit for residential open air burning, Fire Services would be able to meet with the property owner and review the proposed open air fire site to ensure that the open air fire would be conducted in a safe and responsible manner and within the terms of the Open Air Burning By-law. This would allow for a more proactive rather than reactive approach. Currently, the safety and location of residential open air fire is only assessed through complaint and emergency response, not through an approval and inspection process prior to the fire occurring. This is similar to initiatives that are being carried out by other comparator municipalities. With the recent implementation of a Fire Services records management system, a copy of the permit and site assessments will be appended to an electronic file to allow for real-time and/or future reference.

The proposed changes to the Miscellaneous User Fees By-law are as follows:

Signed By

Report Prepared By

Lynn Webster
Manager of Strategic & Business
Services

Digitally Signed Oct 28, 15

Division Review

Trevor Bain
Chief of Fire and Paramedic Services

Digitally Signed Oct 28, 15

Recommended by the Department

Tim P. Beadman
General Manager of Health, Social and
Emergency Services

Digitally Signed Oct 29, 15

Recommended by the C.A.O.

Kevin Fowke
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Digitally Signed Nov 9, 15

Permits – Open Air Burning	Unit	Fee	HST	TOTAL
Residential – Annual	per permit	50.00	n/a	\$50.00
Residential – Renewal	per permit	25.00	n/a	\$25.00
Residential – Weekly	per permit	10.00	n/a	\$10.00
Residential – Permits issued on-site	per permit	1.5 times the permit costs (outlined above)		