

Request for Decision

Fire Services Request to Purchase Additional Apparatus to Equip Spare Pumpers

Presented To: Community Services Committee

Presented: Monday, May 05, 2014

Report Date: Tuesday, Apr 01, 2014

Type: Managers' Reports

Recommendation

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury approve the Emergency Services Department's request to utilize \$83,000 from the Capital Financing Reserve Fund – Fire for the purchase of additional firefighting apparatus to equip two (2) spare pumpers currently in use within the Fire Services Division as recommended in the report dated April 1, 2014 from the Chief of Fire and Paramedic Services.

Finance Implications

If approved, the purchase of firefighting apparatus will be funded through the Capital Financing Reserve Fund – Fire.

Background

Currently, the spare pumpers in Fire Services are not equipped with firefighting equipment. When a pumper is taken out of service for annual inspections, pump testing or repairs, the fire crews are required to strip the equipment off one pumper and transfer it to the spare pumper. The spare pumpers are not even equipped with hose so the process is quite lengthy. This exercise can take as long as an hour and a half. When the vehicle is returned to service this exercise is reversed. In the career areas, the crews are on duty when this happens; therefore, no additional costs are incurred. But, in volunteer areas, the fire fighters are paid to strip the vehicle and restock the vehicle.

Quite often, due to the different compartment layouts on the different styles of pumpers, there is insufficient room for all the equipment that the pumpers are required to carry. Leaving behind certain equipment can hinder the crew's effectiveness.

As equipment is taken off and on the different vehicles, some of the equipment is misplaced or replaced with equipment that is best suited on certain trucks. This happens more often when one crew strips the equipment and a different crew re-stocks the vehicle.

This transfer of equipment is repeated across the City in both career and volunteer areas throughout the year. While the transfer is occurring, the pumper is unable to respond to calls, potentially putting the City at

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Division Review

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Recommended by the Department

Tim P. Beadman
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Recommended by the C.A.O.

Doug Nadorozny
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risk. Other stations will respond but this increases the response time due to geography which can impact the Service's effectiveness.

By fully equipping the two spare pumpers, the switch out of vehicles can be done in minutes which would be more efficient thus eliminating potential response delay and save the cost of wages for stripping and restocking the vehicles.