



## Staff Report

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**Report To:** Council Meeting  
**From:** Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services  
**Date:** 2024-03-28  
**Subject:** Tandem Axle Plow Truck

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### **Recommendation:**

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Lee Gosnell, Manager of Operations & Community Services; and

That West Elgin Council approves ordering one (1) new tandem axle plow truck from Viking-Cives Ltd. of Mount Forest ON, for the quoted price of \$404,393.00 plus applicable tax

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to seek West Elgin Councils' approval to secure a build slot for one (1) new tandem axle plow truck which will be utilized within the public works department.

### **Background:**

The municipality currently operates four tandem axle trucks within its public works department for various jobs including snow removal, summer maintenance/construction and landfill operations. Model years of these four units include 2009, 2013, 2017 and 2021. The replacement schedule for these trucks used to be 10 years, but rising purchase costs and material shortages have extended that lifecycle range. This extension of the replacement schedule is made possible by milder winter seasons (less hours) and on-going preventative maintenance performed by public works staff.

As the next unit to be replaced is now 15 years old (2009), staff have priced a new truck with snow equipment through the LAS Canoe Procurement Program. This unit will have identical features to the one ordered in 2020 but will unfortunately come with a price tag almost 40% higher than 2020 costs. Even with higher prices, demand for vocational trucks remains high. If West Elgin Council approves ordering this unit now, the expected delivery date will be late 2025 or early 2026. Due to the specialized nature of this equipment, these units are not something that can be sourced immediately. Proper planning must be exercised to ensure that equipment can be utilized to its full potential, without major repairs, and life-cycled to provide reliable service and maximize residual value.

Viking-Cives builds a reliable product which has been used at the municipality for decades. The 2009 International truck which is being replaced was built in Mount Forest, and after 16 seasons of hauling gravel, plowing snow, and spreading salt, is a testament to the quality and workmanship of their product. For these reasons, staff recommend the purchase of this tandem axle plow truck from Viking-Cives through the Canoe Procurement Program.

**Financial Implications:**

Funds for the purchase of this unit will come from West Elgin public works equipment reserves and will be allocated in the 2025 and/or 2026 budget years.

**Alignment with Strategic Priorities:**

<b>Infrastructure Improvement</b>	<b>Recreation</b>	<b>Economic Development</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To improve West Elgin’s infrastructure to support long-term growth.	<input type="checkbox"/> To provide recreation and leisure activities to attract and retain residents.	<input type="checkbox"/> To ensure a strong economy that supports growth and maintains a lower cost of living.	<input type="checkbox"/> To enhance communication with residents.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lee Gosnell  
 Manager of Operations

## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Tandem Axle Plow Truck - 2024-14-Operations Community Services.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Mar 26, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Terri Towstiuć