



Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting
From: Jeff McArthur, Fire Chief
Date: 2024-05-23
Report: 2024-06
Subject: Tanker Apparatus Replacement

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Jeff McArthur, Fire Chief; and

That Staff be authorized to purchase, from Commercial Emergency Equipment Company, one (1) Maxi-Metal Tanker based on the specifications in the proposal, in the amount of \$738,491.23 plus applicable taxes, to replace the 1998 Tanker currently in service at Station 2 in West Lorne.

Purpose:

To seek Council approval to move forward on a Tanker Apparatus Replacement for the fire department.

Background:

Once a need to replace one of the two aging fire department tankers was identified, a Tanker Replacement Committee (TRC) was formed in late 2022. The TRC has met several times in the past approximately 18 months, with members recently travelling to Bruce County to look at a tanker of favourable design. The proposed tanker meets the majority of the TRC's preferred features. While this tanker isn't designed to be a primary pumper, it does have pumping capabilities and will be able to fulfill a pumper role, in the event either station's pumper is out of service.

Recognizing that in the past several years there has been a tremendous increase in fire apparatus pricing caused by high inflation rates, supply chain shortages, and a weaker Canadian dollar; staff prioritized cost savings options.

In an Elgin County Fire Chiefs meeting in 2023, it was identified that Bayham and Malahide Fire Departments were also in need of a very similar apparatus, and in collaboration with the municipalities' apparatus committees, it was determined that there was a possibility of cost savings by making a multi truck purchase.

The three fire chiefs, collectively contacted and met with several apparatus manufactures with the goal of securing a multi truck order, that would both provide significant savings for each municipality but would also meet each fire department's tanker replacement needs. Pricing that was received varied, with one being over one million dollars per tanker.

Ultimately Canoe/Sourcewell Procurement was utilized to source a suitable proposal for the purchase of this apparatus. As the Municipality of West Elgin is a member of the Local Authority Services (LAS) organization through the Association of Ontario Municipalities (AMO), West Elgin had the opportunity to again participate in the Canoe Procurement Group Program, which was recently utilized by the Manager of Operations & Community Services to order a motor grader.

The cost savings by participating in this group purchase are \$106,352.00. This divided between the three (3) trucks amounts to a savings of \$35,450.00 per municipality. These savings will only be realized upon a signed contract from all three participating municipalities. It is anticipated that both the Municipality of Bayham and Township of Malahide Councils' will approve similar reports in early June, for the purchase of the same tanker apparatus.

The delivery date on the new Tanker is set for 725 days from the time of executing the purchase order, which would be Spring 2026.

Financial Implications:

In the 2024 Capital Budget, a combined \$730,000 was included in 2025 to fund this apparatus. Staff believe the approximately \$8,500 difference between that amount and the proposal price can be covered by the sale of the surplus tanker once the new tanker has been placed into service.

The payment terms are outlined in the proposal and are the same for all three municipalities. The chassis is expected to arrive to the manufacturer in late 2024, or early 2025.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jeff McArthur, Fire Chief

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Tanker Apparatus Replacement - 2024-06-Fire.docx
Attachments:	- West Elgin Maxi Proposal (revised).pdf
Final Approval Date:	May 21, 2024

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

Terri Towstiuć