



## Staff Report

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**Report To:** Council Meeting  
**From:** Jeff McArthur, Fire Chief  
**Date:** 2020-09-24  
**Report:** 2020-05  
**Subject:** Bunker Gear Purchase

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### **Recommendation:**

That West Elgin Council approves the purchase of up to 20 suits of bunker gear at a total cost of \$45,410.00 plus taxes & shipping, with 50% to be invoiced in December 2020 and the remaining 50% to be invoiced in January 2021.

### **Purpose:**

To inform Council of current and upcoming bunker gear requirements and the opportunity for cost savings.

### **Background:**

NFPA Standard recommends bunker suits are replaced by, or before, ten years from date of manufacture. This is widely accepted and practiced throughout Ontario. It appears to have been a few years since any new bunker gear has been purchased in West Elgin. WEFD has budgeted to replace eight sets of bunker gear this year, with a budgeted total of \$20,000. Looking ahead to 2021, it will be necessary to budget a very similar amount in order to replace all sets that will reach the end of their ten-year life span in 2021. In the two years following that an additional minimum 12 sets will need replacing. This only considers the current firefighter roster, and there is limited current spare gear available for new recruits.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Minimum # of Bunker Suits Required</i>
2020	3
2021	14
2022	7
<i>Total</i>	<i>24</i>

Two quotes have been obtained, representing the two manufacturers that have most commonly supplied bunker suits in West Elgin over the past ten years. Bunker gear has several options and although it's challenging to have both quotes represent the exact same specifications, both are similar, and staff is familiar with both manufacturers. AJ Stone is a regular supplier of fire equipment and supplies most of fire departments in Elgin County with bunker gear. They offer a 5% discount for orders over 10 suits.

A sales rep from AJ Stone attended a recent WEFD Officer Meeting to discuss various options and show product examples. The majority were pleased with the quality, options, and pricing presented.

Staff is recommending that we order 20 suits this fall from AJ Stone, to cover 2020 & 2021 bunker gear requirements and part of 2022 requirements. The supplier is willing to divide the invoice total to reflect 50% in December 2020 and 50% in January 2021. Regarding delivery times, if the order was placed in September, the order likely wouldn't be received until the end of 2020 or early in 2021. Ordering 20 suits at once would also allow for equipment consistency between the stations and save any price increases in 2021, which are common each year.

### **Financial Implications:**

This proposed purchase would exceed the current budgeted amount for bunker gear in 2020 and would also require a commitment from the 2021 budget.

<i>Order Year</i>	<i>Avg Price/Suit</i>	<i>Suit Order</i>	<i>Notes</i>
2020	2399.00	8 suits - \$19,192	Individual suit cost
2020/21/22	2399.00	20 suits - \$47,980	No discount
2020/21/22	2270.50	20 suits - \$45,410	Discount applied. \$2,570.00 in savings plus an estimated additional \$500 savings in yearly manufacturer cost increases

### **Policies/Legislation:**

Purchasing Policy and Procedure AD-1.2

### **Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	Bunker Gear Purchase - 2020-05-Fire.docx
Attachments:	- 2020 energy gear - quote 1 and 20.pdf - Brooke Alvinston Gxcel Quote 270120 TL.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Sep 22, 2020

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

Jana Nethercott