



## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

CDR# 2019031

Date: March 18, 2019

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**TO:** Mayor Kogon and Members of Amherst Town Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Greg Jones, Fire Chief

**DATE:** February 4, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Replacement of fire engine (Engine #2 - Pumper)

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**ORIGIN:** 2019 - 2020 Capital Budget request

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY:** 37000-01 Procurement Policy and the MGA, Section 65 (z) Power to expend money states: *"The council may expend money required by the municipality for...acquisition of equipment, materials, vehicles, machinery, apparatus, implements and plant for a municipal purpose"*.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council approve a 2019 / 2020 capital expenditure of \$535,000 to replace engine # 2.

**BACKGROUND:** Engine # 2 is used to ensure that equipment and fire suppression is readily available during various types of emergency operations. Engine # 2 is the main work horse for the district 1 (Contract area – Municipality of Cumberland) used for operational training and to meet operational requirements during emergency response requests.

**DISCUSSION:** Engine # 2 has been in operation with our fire department for 28 years+ and has met its life expectancy of 25 years. This capital request focuses on ensuring that the Town of Amherst has a reliable pumper fleet which meets the current industry standard of a life span of 25 years and supports effective fire flow.

Following an accident in early 2016, engine # 2 underwent a major structural repair to the rear of the unit. Following the completion of the required repairs, this unit was put back into service with no further issues.

Unfortunately, over the last few years engine # 2 operational condition has started to deteriorate. We are now being faced with doors that are hard to open and require additional effort to open and close. Sagging suspension on the driver's side of the apparatus and a consistent oil leak from the engine.

Manufacturing and delivery of a new fire apparatus could take approximately 10 – 12 months to complete, after a contract is awarded. Therefore, delivery would not likely occur until late 2019 or the third quarter of the 2019 / 2020 fiscal year.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:** \$535,000 will procure a new engine, to meet the needs of the residents of Amherst and the district 2 contract area.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** The tendering process will be used to procure this product, as



per our Procurement Policy.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPLICATIONS:** The replacement of this fire apparatus will not have social justice implications within the community.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS:** Our current engine # 2 emits unfiltered carbon emissions into the atmosphere. The procurement of a new engine will reduce our carbon emissions. A new unit will be manufactured with a Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) system. A DEF system uses a non-hazardous solution, which is 32.5% urea and 67.5% de-ionized water. DEF is sprayed into the exhaust stream of diesel vehicles to break down dangerous NOx emissions, to harmless nitrogen and water.

**ALTERNATIVES:** Reject capital request

**ATTACHMENTS:** N/A

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Report prepared by: Greg Jones, Fire Chief

Report and Financial approved by: