
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Report EMS-01-2022 Capital Budget Amendment for Purchase of Fire Pumper - Caledonia



For Consideration by Council in Committee on May 10, 2022

OBJECTIVE:

To obtain approval for the increase of \$53,000 to be able to facilitate the purchase of a Fire Pumper for Station 1 in Caledonia originally budgeted at \$750,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report EMS-01-2022 Capital Budget Amendment for Purchase of Fire Pumper - Caledonia be received;
2. AND THAT the revised budget as outlined in report EMS-01-2022 be approved.

Prepared by: Jason Gallagher, Manager, Emergency Services/Fire Chief

Respectfully submitted: Mike Evers, MCIP, RPP, BES, General Manager of Community & Development Services

Approved: Craig Manley, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Staff are seeking approval for a budget increase of \$53,000 for the purchase of a Class 98a Fire Pumper for Station 1, Caledonia. The original quote was provided in 2021 and the approved 2022 budget amount was aligned with this quote. Unfortunately, a number of cost increases resulting from material supply issues, overseas parts availability and other economic factors has resulted in a 2022 purchase price increase of \$53,000, which will require a budget amendment to complete the project. The increase is approximately 7%.

BACKGROUND:

As permitted in the Procurement Policy, Haldimand may opt to participate in cooperative purchasing initiatives which is deemed beneficial to the County which includes the Canoe Procurement Group (Canoe) under the umbrella of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. In 2021, staff from Fleet and Emergency Services divisions met with the approved Canoe vendor, Metz Fire and Rescue who provided a quote for the replacement of a pumper truck. As part of those discussions, a review of available updated technology was completed to address and promote firefighter health and safety as well as the onboard equipment to increase the operational ability of the apparatus. The 2022 Approved Capital Budget included project C-315116, in the amount of \$750,000 which represented the quote for replacing unit 06-9801.

Since then however, staff have been informed by the vendor that the cost of the pumper truck has increased. The County continues to see the impacts of unforeseen costs due to many global issues, COVID, shortages of materials, and increased manufacturer costs to name but a few. The vendor has

provided reasoning, reference Attachment #1. These unforeseen costs, have resulted in increased budgets in many areas, including the manufacturers of Fire apparatus globally. In an effort to avoid additional anticipated mid-year increases, staff are bringing this report for the budget revision forward now. If approved, it would allow the purchase order to proceed, and start the manufacturing process, avoiding any further cost increases, and maintaining the expected delivery date of 2023.

ANALYSIS:

Fire apparatus are replaced based on a determined life cycle which the Fleet Department manages. Fire pumper apparatus are critical to fire suppression. These apparatus carry water, equipment and firefighters to the fire ground. This is the apparatus that is most important in putting out fires, as it pumps the water through hoses that allow the fire suppression process to occur. It is crucial that this equipment is in good working order. These apparatus have a life cycle of approximately 17 years, as parts and mechanical fixtures of the apparatus tend to fail and therefore need replacement. At a 17 year age, parts can be hard to obtain in an expedited manner, or discontinued all together. Through the Fleet Capital Replacement Cycle these apparatus are part of the 10 year Capital Budget and Forecast which is approved by Council each year. In 2021, when preparing for the upcoming apparatus replacement of the pumper, Fire staff sat down prior to meeting with Fleet staff to discuss the updated pumper specifications. The updated specifications include a "Clean Cab" modification and the onboard generator, which not only increase the operational ability of the pumper, but also add benefit to the firefighter's management of the apparatus and provide them with additional health and safety benefits. These two options are explained in more detail in the paragraphs that follow.

The Clean Cab to be included, is a relatively new option for fire apparatus, and is beneficial in decreasing firefighter exposure to carcinogenic gases, and materials often found on gear following calls. Despite a thorough on scene decontamination process for our firefighter gear and equipment, gear has to be bagged and carried in a compartment or in the cab of the truck to facilitate a more aggressive decontamination at the stations. The Clean Cab allows for the transport of gear and equipment to be done safely and properly, by securing on racking and shelving, and by sealing in a compartment not containing any other equipment, which will decrease the amount of contamination to staff. Also, the cab is equipped with HEPA filters that will filter out any gases that the firefighters may be exposed to following the call prior to being able to shower once back at the station. The Clean Cab may assist in cutting down on exposures that could in turn progress to different types of cancer that our firefighters have faced and may continue to face over their careers. This could be beneficial for the County as it may decrease the risk of firefighters developing cancer due to the exposures. Firefighters are covered by the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) should they develop a cancer covered by Presumptive Cancer legislation. The County's experience with presumptive cancer claims have resulted in significant claims cost to both firefighters and their surviving beneficiaries. The intent of the Clean Cab is to reduce the exposures ultimately providing a safer work environment and decrease potential WSIB costs due to these cancers. Going forward the Clean Cab will become a regular specification for our apparatus, and will make Haldimand County one of the few departments moving forward with this positive initiative.

The on-board generator benefits fire operations on the fire ground. It allows for the use of extra lighting on scene, the use of tools required for technical rescue, charging of batteries for radios, flashlights, and other appliances that may require charging due to low battery episodes during operations. Currently some apparatus have this option, while others do not. Going forward the on-board generator will add consistency and proper deployment of equipment in the future.

If this budget increase is not approved, Emergency Services along with the Fleet department would have to cut crucial options from this apparatus that could affect operations and health and safety. In order to get this apparatus within the original budget, a smaller engine would need to be installed that

would meet the needs of a pumper truck, however, could affect the need for increased work load due to supporting larger apparatus on scene (e.g. aerial devices when pumping large quantities of water at large structure fires). In addition, the Clean Cab option (described above) would be required to be removed which if done, puts our firefighters at greater risk for exposure to carcinogenic gases and materials which could cause cancer overtime. Lastly, the on-board generator (also described above) would also have to be removed in combination with the other removals in order to meet the current budget. This would affect the truck operationally when crews require charging of equipment and the need for electric hand tools when performing rescue operations. A portable generator would be required to be placed on the apparatus which does not provide the same capacity as an onboard generator and also takes up vital cabinet room where other operational tools are stored. A portable generator would need to be purchased in lieu of this option and thus would introduce additional cost that would diminish any savings from removal of this option.

FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

The pumper truck is being purchased through the Canoe Procurement Group of Canada, similar to the purchase of the aerial device previously approved by Council in 2021. When Fleet and Fire staff met with the approved vendor, the replacement along with the additional options were within the current replacement cost of \$750,000. Following the approval of the 2022 Capital Budget, and prior to the Purchase Order being sent, the vendor communicated that the price to replace the unit, had increased to a total cost of \$803,000 (including the non-rebate able HST).

Staff are recommending that the 2022 Council Approved Tax Supported Capital Budget for project C-315116 be increased as outlined below, to a revised budget of \$803,000 (including non-rebate able HST) which will allow for the purchase of the pumper and the issuance of the purchase order.

	Current Approved Budget	Proposed Revised Budget
Expenditures:		
Pumper-Fire (C-315116)	\$750,000	\$803,000
<u>Total Expenditures</u>	\$750,000	\$803,000
Funding:		
CRR Fire Fleet	\$750,000	\$803,000
<u>Total Funding</u>	\$750,000	\$803,000

As with past practices, a review of all projects funded from CRR Fire Fleet will be done, and where possible, any savings that can be identified, will be returned to the reserve, to help offset the increased costs for this project.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:

Not applicable.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: No

By-law: No

Budget Amendment: Yes

Policy: No

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Inflation Costs Haldimand County Fire Apparatus.