



Staff Report

Report Title: Fire and Emergency Services 10 Year Strategic Plan update

Prepared By: Chris Cleave, Fire Chief

Department: Fire and Emergency Services

Date: May. 1, 2023

Report Number: FIRE-2023-05-22

File Number: C11-FIRE-23

Attachments:

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approves Report Number FIRE-2023-05-22, prepared by Chris Cleave, Fire Chief;

AND FURTHER adopts the attached Fire and Emergency Services 10 year Strategic Plan as prepared by Emergency Management Group Inc. in principle as updated.

Background:

On July 4, 2022, the Township awarded an RFP for a Fire and Emergency Services Review Emergency Management Group Inc. The purpose of this study was to review of various areas such as our apparatus, operations, facilities, staffing and training. It was also intended to provide a roadmap to allow for us to maintain an appropriate Level of Service while the Township continues to experience growth.

At the February 21, 2023, Committee of the Whole Meeting the Committee adopted the Strategic Plan in principle, however staff had identified some minor updates required to the plan to more accurately reflect our current operations.

Discussion:

The minor changes are as follows:

Pg. 83. The previous version identified a "Vacant Deputy Chief Position". The updated version now acknowledges that our organizational structure does not include a deputy fire chief at this time and there are no vacant leadership positions within the Department.

Pg. 123. The previous version of the plan indicated that a new Station was going to be built in Ripley. The updated plan now reflects that only a brief discussion has occurred in the past about building a new Fire Hall on Township owned land in the Ripley Industrial Park however no formal plans are in place to build a new fire hall in Ripley currently.

Pg. 125 – In relation to the subject of a Lakeshore Station, further incident call information and call volume breakdowns have been added to better illustrate the actual service level provided at the Lakeshore presently by the Ripley-Huron Fire Department. This information shows most of those calls are medical in nature and actual Fire Calls are minimal in comparison. This should help with determining need and services levels should there ever be consideration given to enhancing service through a newly created station or sub station.

Pg. 131. The photo of the SCBA bottles stored on the floor has been removed and the statements about the bottles being an unsafe condition has been removed. The bottles themselves were not unsafe as they had been depressurized and the valves left open prior to being stored in that location. The report has been updated to reflect that storage in general at the Ripley Fire Hall is an ongoing issue as we are starting to outgrow the facility.

Financial Impacts:

None currently

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are an accessible community that offers opportunities for everyone by having services and amenities nearby.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Chris Cleave, Fire Chief

Report Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer