

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, January 25, 2013				Report Date	Tuesday, January-22-13			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	x	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
REPORT TITLE									
Intent to Amend Fire By-Law Report #25/01/13/1001									

Subject: Council approval of amendments to the current Municipal Fire Ban By-law within the Municipality to allow approval for private residents to have a "campfire" during municipally imposed Fire Bans.

RECOMMENDATION: That council adopt the resolutions necessary to authorize the amendments to the Municipal Fire Ban By-Law 2012-20. By-Law attached for review.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: As per direction of Council staff has researched this issue and has determined through sources at the Ministry of Natural Resources that the municipality has the authority under the *Municipal Act* and the *Fire Prevention and Protection Act* to implement a designation checklist for private property in a similar manner as is allowed for campgrounds.

It was recommended that a similar system be adopted to ensure that the resident is aware of their obligations and requirements under the legislation.

It was stated that the Municipal Fire Ban By-law and any exemptions would not be in effect during a Ministry initiated Restricted Fire Zone. If and when that occurs, no fires would be allowed except as specifically allowed under the provincial legislation; again campgrounds exempt, property owners not.

The above suggestions allow for amendment to the current Fire Ban By-law and introduce a new document as Appendix A to By-Law 2013-06 setting out the requirements for private property compliance.

Options/Discussion: Fee/no fee?

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact: There are no major financial implications unless a fire is eventually caused by this exemption. A fee of \$25 per inspection per year for municipal staff time will be collected as with the campground inspections.

Policy Impact: Amends current policy as allowed by the provincial legislation.

Others Consulted: Robert Butler, MNR Pembroke; Bill Droog, Fire Prevention & Education Program Advisor, Aviation, Forest Fire & Emergency Services, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,

Municipal Clerk

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