

Request for Decision United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, January 30, 2015				Report Date	Tuesday, January-27-15			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

North Renfrew Emergency Response Unit Invoice - Report #30/01/15/1208

Subject:

A review of the current rescue vehicle agreement and financing.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council consider the status of the current agreement and provide direction to staff to deal with the invoice received. As this is a politically sensitive issue, staff does not have a specific recommendation but has presented one alternative for Council consideration.

WHEREAS staff have received an invoice for \$800 for rescue vehicle partnership annual fees;

AND WHEREAS without an agreement or budget line item staff have no authority to make this payment without express Council approval;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby authorize staff to remove \$800 from the Emergency Vehicle Reserve to pay this invoice;

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Last week HCM received an invoice for \$800 for its share of the annual operating costs of the North Renfrew Emergency Rescue Unit. The challenge is that since an agreement to extend the payment terms was not passed in February of 2014, it was assumed that the funding agreement had been discontinued.

The Clerk exchanged emails with Chief Tennant of the DR Fire Department. His position is that the agreement (which you have received a copy) is still in existence and under it HCM is obligated to pay its annual fee of \$800.

It is staff understanding that the review which took place in 2014 (a copy of meeting minutes you have in this package) fell through. Although a discussion of an agreement amendment took place, nothing was finalized or presented to HCM council for approval.

In the agreement signed in 2010, the general agreement was for payment of \$800 per year for the years 2010 – 2013 as specified in section 6.a. Although discussion about extending these payments into the future took place at the meeting in February of 2014, they were not presented to nor adopted by Council. As we do not have an agreement, or a budget line item; staff have no authority to make these payments without Council's express permission.

Further, it was expressed to Councillor Grills at that meeting that due to the resulting vulnerability of Deep River assets when staff were called out to rescue calls, it was likely that this service would be discontinued for HCM. Since there was no official follow up, it was staff understanding that the funding agreement had terminated so was not inserted into budget discussion.

Options/Discussion:

Although there are many components to this issue, including whether or not HCM should even be a part of this program, the decision to be made today is whether or not staff is to pay the invoice for 2014.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:

Financially the impact is minimal at \$800. There is \$2,500 in the Emergency Vehicle Reserve fund that might be used to make this payment.

Policy Impact:

Staff requires approval to pay as this falls outside current policy.

Others Consulted:

Noella LeBreton, Treasurer
Doug Tennant, Fire Chief Town of Deep River
Councillor Grills, HCM representative Joint NRERU Committee

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk