

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

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, September 26, 2014				Report Date	Tuesday, September-23-14			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
#26/09/14/1102 – Heli-Pad Contract									

Subject:

Discussion of whether the ongoing maintenance and care of the heli-pad is a business that this municipality should be in. A weighing of the pros and cons.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council provides direction to staff re: the ORNGE Air Contract.

Deferred from the August 2014 Council meeting.

WHEREAS Council did approve the purchase of insurance for the heli-pad at its meeting of Friday, August 22, 2014 and deferred a decision on entering into the contract which has been provided for Council to review in full;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff are hereby authorized to endorse and finalize the agreement with ORNGE for the operation of the emergency heli-pad in Head, Clara & Maria.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Funds have been spent over the past 4-5 years to ready the old rink surface to allow use as a heli-pad. Discussion began some time in 2008 and since that time various activities have occurred to facilitate the installation of a heli-pad for use by ORNGE air for medical emergency purposes only.

This project originated at the County level and after consultation with Mike Nolan of the Renfrew County Paramedic Service, and a member of ORNGE Air, Ruth Morin, acting as Community Emergency Management Coordinator agreed that a heli-pad was a good idea at this location.

In September of 2008, during the Clerk’s absence, this issue was brought before Council asking for Council’s permission to approve her decision to have the heli-pad installed and was granted.

Since then various tasks have been completed including:

- Removal of trees along Delahunt property.
- Relocation of hydro lines to service the municipal garage.
- Removal of trees behind the municipal garage and across Logger’s Road.

It was initial understanding that this project was in coordination with a County initiative and that there would be little expense for HCM. Over the years, contact with ORNGE lapsed a number of times as they experienced internal staffing and operational challenges.

An initial contract was received in March of 2009. A request for clarification was stalled at ORNGE. This final version of the contract was provided for HCM staff to review and endorse finally in February of 2014. It is not significantly different from the earlier version.

In 2009 there was an additional request for installation of lights or markings on the hydro wires crossing Logger's road. This was brought to Council and approved at a cost of \$1,440.

Staff requires additional direction from Council.

1. Costs of insuring the space is to be borne by the municipality amount to \$1,000 per year for \$1 million coverage.
2. There has been discussion of ORNGE limiting the use of the site to their helicopters. I am uncertain where this originated. I did not notice it during my recent review of the contract.

Options/Discussion:

Does Council wish to proceed with the endorsement of this contract or not?

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:

Insurance costs of at least \$1,000 per year.

ORNGE will compensate staff for site maintenance in the amount of \$3,500 per year.

Policy Impact:

Within Council's jurisdiction.

Others Consulted:

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk