

FIRE COMMITTEE MEETING

July 20, 2011

There was a meeting of the Fire Committee held in the Municipal Council Chambers on Wednesday, July 20, 2011. Present were Chair Margaret Whyte and Mayor Don Eady. Staff present were Deputy Fire Chief Allan Cole and Mackie McLaren CAO/Clerk.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Whyte called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There was no declaration of pecuniary interest by Members of the Committee and staff.

3. MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2011 COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair Whyte reviewed the May 18, 2011 Committee Meeting Minutes, which had already been approved by Council.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

Ice and Water Rescue

Deputy Chief Cole said there was nothing new to report.

Hot Stick

Deputy Chief Cole referred to page 2. He has not proceeded any further with pricing or purchasing a hot stick.

Deputy Chief Cole reported that Firefighter Burgess has left the department and he has been replaced by Scott Brown, former Captain who retired last year and has returned as a firefighter.

Mayor Eady asked if we have a letter of thanks that we send to departing firefighters and also a welcome letter for new recruits. Deputy Chief Cole said that they do give departing members a good send off with a promise to forward training records if they wish and they usually get a letter. Mayor Eady offered Council if the fire department ever needs to sign something to give to the departing firefighters. Deputy Chief Cole said he will be doing something later this year to recognize the length of service that will require signing.

Chair Whyte asked if we should do a volunteer diner. Mayor Eady said we have done these in the past and he will be putting this idea forward at the September Council Meeting.

5. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations that appeared before the Committee.

6. JULY 2011 EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORT

The Committee reviewed the Revenue and Expenditure report for July 2011 to date. Mayor Eady informed Deputy Chief Cole that the Committee budget will be started in September and it will be started at the Committee level first. The department should take this time now to prepare a list of equipment that they need. Deputy Chief Cole said that an expenditure forecast will be prepared and by that time the Finance Manager will have had time to see and follow trends. Chair Whyte added that it is our goal to have the department budgets in place by December 31st 2011 for 2012.

7. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Deputy Chief Cole said that Chief Corbin was not able to be in attendance tonight due to work commitments. He did not have his list of fires however he did advise that there have been three false alarms to a local tourism business, two being during the last storm. They will continue to respond for the time being.

Deputy Chief Cole stated that the department responded to an accident at the Four Corners in Chenux on Canada Day.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Correspondence to review.

9. MNR FIRE AGREEMENT

Mapping from County Mapping

Deputy Chief Cole reported that Steve Osipenko, firefighter and Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) has received mapping from the County to be used to determine the fire areas for the MNR application.

Information Package to be completed

The Committee briefly reviewed the package with Deputy Chief Cole noting that they are moving forward although slowly with this application.

10. GENERATOR HOOKUPS AT COMMUNITY CENTRE

The CAO/Clerk explained that the Infrastructure Committee has discussed the cumbersome process to engage the generator at the Community Centre with the contractor. Deputy Chief Cole said the issue that it is not user friendly. The current instructions will start the generator but not very easily.

11. THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA

Deputy Chief Cole asked if the department could proceed with this purchase. Chair Whyte said yes, it was included in the budget that was approved since the last Committee Meeting.

12. MTO HIGHWAY FIRE CALLS – SURPLUS REVENUE OVER BUDGET TO GO INTO FIRE RESERVES

Deputy Chief Cole reported that Chief Corbin has a concern that in the past, excess revenue over budget for highway calls events went into the general pot. They request that a policy be prepared that excess revenue from highway accidents to go into a reserve account for future fire department capital purchases. Mayor Eady said he supports this but would like to discuss it with the Finance Manager before a decision is made to ensure that it is permitted under the Municipal Act. If it is okay, it will be presented at the September Committee meeting for a recommendation to Council.

13. GEORGE JACKSON TOYOTA – WATER SUPPLY

Storm Water Management Pond

Deputy Chief Cole informed the Committee that he met with David LaRocque of George Jackson Toyota on July 18th 2011. They discussed location of dry hydrants and where he can secure a hydrant for water supply requirements. Deputy Chief Cole worked through a calculation for water required for suppression of the commercial building and agreed that it would require upwards of 1 million liters of water in the pond. Deputy Chief Cole reported that Mr. Larocque has offered the Township access to the pond for our own firefighting water in the future. Deputy Chief Cole said however to access the supply we would need access to the property. He is suggesting that we may be able to access the water with our portable pump with a line back to the Township Road without taking the vehicles on site. Another option is to install our own dry hydrant which he estimated would cost 6 – 10 thousand dollars. Chair Whyte suggested a dry hydrant would be

better installed in the Ottawa River where there is a limitless supply of water. Deputy Chief Cole said ideally we need to divide the Township into 4 quadrants with a hydrant in each. Mayor Eady asked if we can install a dry hydrant at the Toyota property later on. Deputy Chief Cole said yes, without much bother to his property as well.

Chair Whyte said the fire department needs a 5-10 year plan for fire services which would include a decision on locations for hydrants and install a hydrant every 3-4 years.

After further discussion the Committee agreed to support these suggestions.

14. USE OF FIRE HALL FOR FRUIT DELIVERY FOR REC FUNDRAISER

Chair Whyte informed the Fire Committee that there will be a Niagra Fruit Fundraiser again this late August early September and the Recreation Committee suggested we use the Fire Hall to receive the fruit and disbursement to customers. The Community Centre was used last year and it was too much carrying. Using the Fire Hall, a donation from Marshall's of a forklift would move the product easier. Deputy Chief Cole said that the department would support this providing electrical outlets were available for the 2 trucks to plug into to keep their air up for their air brakes.

15. OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL – ANNUAL COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION ACT (FPPA)

Deputy Chief Cole reported that this is an annual report that is sent in by each department to keep compliance with the act. It will be completed and sent off.

Essentials of Fire Fighting for Fire Service Leaders

Deputy Chief Cole said this is for Council Members. A seminar was held in Arnprior in the spring and is quickly sold out. The Fire Marshalls Office is looking for another department to host a meeting. After discussion the Committee agreed the volunteer firefighters would offer to host a seminar and CAO/Clerk was requested to contact the Fire Marshalls Office with this offer.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Eady discussed water needs in the Cotieville Area. He noted that the Township will be ditching on McBride Road and there is a fair volume of water in the spring. Would it benefit the Fire Department if Public Works installed a tile in the ditch to be used for accessing water? Deputy Chief Cole said every available water supply helps. They have a map that marks out all available water sources. Mayor Eady suggested that the Public Works and Fire Department work together.

Mayor Eady referred to the Wardens Golf Tournament which will be held this year on September 9th at the Renfrew Golf Club. He invited the Fire Department to have a team ready that if there was a last minute vacancy that they could fill that spot.

Deputy Chief Cole informed the Committee that he had heard that the grader had gone through some of the decking on the bridge on Leavoy Lane. A concern of the Fire Department has always been access for Fire vehicles on private roads and unmaintained bridges where property owners expect fire services. Mayor Eady said that we had a policy of one free road grader on private roads per year; a condition was an inspection that the road meets the minimum criteria to be graded. He suggested there should be a joint inspection of all private roads by the Fire and Public Works Departments to report conditions for vehicle access. The CAO/Clerk said that this was done 5 or 6 years ago and property owners on roads that were not accessible due to narrow width or over hanging branches were advised to correct the situation. Chair Whyte said she remembers getting such a letter. The Committee agreed that this would be discussed with the Public Works Committee.

17. NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed to meet Tuesday September 20th 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

18. CONFIRMING RESOLUTION

Moved by Don Eady, seconded by Allan Cole

That the Committee pass this confirming resolution to cover any actions or directions given during the open portion of this Committee Meeting which are minor in nature and which were not set out in By-law or Resolution

Carried.

19. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Allan Cole, seconded by Don Eady

That this Committee Meeting be adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Carried.

Chair

CAO/Clerk