



Staff Report FIRE2020-014

Title of Report: FIRE2020-014- Smoke Alarm Cost Recovery
Department: Fire
Council Date: September 2, 2020

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that Council receive Staff Report FIRE2020-014 as information; and
That Council approve staff to start invoicing for smoke alarms that are left with residents and property owners.

Background:

When the Fire Department attends any dwelling for an inspection or emergency response the department looks for and inspects Smoke/CO alarms. If there are no Smoke/CO alarms or if an alarm is deficient, we are required to provide the resident with some sort of Smoke/CO alarm for early detection purposes.

For years we have left a combination alarm at these residences with the verbal agreement that once they replace their deficient or nonexistent alarm, that they are to return ours back to the department.

Staff Comments:

The Fire Department rarely receives these alarms back. This year alone we have left 6 alarms at properties throughout our coverage area and to date, zero have been returned.

In future the Fire Department will be billing the property owner or tenant \$75.00 per Smoke/CO alarm device temporarily installed in the building. It will be the property owner's or tenant's decision to keep the Smoke/CO alarm device(s) or replace them with units they purchase and install on their own. This will allow the Fire Department to revisit the property to ensure they have complied and return the loaned devices. If the owner or tenant fails to pay for the Smoke/CO alarm device(s) we will place the cost on the property taxes. Invoicing the resident for the Smoke/CO combination alarm would allow us to recover our cost for the alarm if it is not returned to us within 10 days.

Financial Implications:

There will be no financial impact as a result of this report. We will be recovering our cost for the alarm devices if it is not returned to the Fire Department within 10 days and this will allow us to purchase a replacement without taking it out of the budget.

Communications & Community Action Plan Impact:

This report has been written and presented to Council to communicate accurate information to the public.

Concluding Comments:

That Council receive Staff Report FIRE2020-014 for information; and that Council approve staff to start invoicing for smoke alarms.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dept. Head: *Original Signed By*
Derek Malynyk, Fire Chief Official

CAO Approval: *Original Signed By*
Dave Milliner, CAO