



Staff Report FIRE2022-005

Title of Report: FIRE2022-005- Grey Highlands Automatic Aid Agreement
Department: Fire
Council Date: February 16, 2022

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that Council receive Staff Report FIRE2022-005 for information; and
That Council consider approval of the Grey Highlands Automatic Aid Agreement with the Municipality of Grey Highlands by By-law 2022-030.

Background:

When fires occur in rural areas fire departments must transport water to the scene utilizing tanker trucks as municipal hydrants are not available. The majority of structure fires in the rural area require a minimum of three tankers to create an efficient tanker shuttle operation to provide adequate water. Fire departments have originally just summoned neighbouring communities tankers under the provisions of the Ontario Mutual Aid Program. According to the Mutual Aid Program a request for mutual aid can only be requested by the Incident Commander. The Incident Commander is established once the first fire apparatus arrives on scene.

Staff Comments:

Staff have worked with our legal team and created an Automatic Aid Agreement for tanker operations. In discussions with the Grey Highlands Fire Chief it was indicated that Grey Highlands has 3 tankers which get dispatched to all fires in the municipality and do not require the automatic dispatch of the Dundalk tanker. They will continue to summon the Dundalk tanker under the provisions of the Ontario Mutual Aid Program. Grey Highlands has agreed to the terms of this agreement and will be automatically dispatched for a tanker truck only in the agreed fire area if there is a confirmed structure fire. This will increase fire protection to our rural residents by having a water supply established faster as the neighbouring tanker truck will arrive to the scene ten to fifteen minutes earlier than if requested by mutual aid.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications due to this agreement as the service would be summoned under the Provincial Mutual Aid Plan regardless.

Communications & Community Action Plan Impact:

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

Concluding Comments:

Respectfully Submitted,

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

CAO Approval: Original Signed
Dave Milliner, CAO