

**Township of Southgate
Administration Office**

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Staff Report FIRE2022-017

Title of Report: FIRE2022-017- Grey County Radio System Update

Department: Fire

Council Date: October 5, 2022

Recommendation:

Be it resolved that Council receive Staff Report FIRE2022-017 for information.

Background:

On September 12, 2019, Grey County CAO, brought Report CAOR-CW-12-19 to County Council outlining a request from the Grey County Fire Chiefs Association for the County to assist with finding a solution to the fire paging and radio communication system. The primary objectives of the new system were to:

- Increase the footprint of area in Grey County where firefighters would receive pages to their pagers.
- Provide better communications by providing a paging only frequency which is separate from operational channels and has the ability for every department in Grey County to communicate to each other regardless of their location around the County.
- Provide a cost effective and efficient system by using a group buying power approach. With the County ordering all the radios the cost was significantly lower to all municipalities and with the RFP covering the maintenance of the radio system itself to be monitored 24/7.

On June 17th, 2020 Southgate Council agenda under correspondence 10.2.3 County of Grey Fire Communications Project – received June 1, 2020 was a memo from Kim Wingrove, Grey County CAO to all municipal CAOs that Telequip Systems Ltd. of Barrie, Ontario was awarded RFP CAO-01-20 for the delivery of an enhanced fire communications system. The memo also stated that Grey County required confirmation from each participating municipality that they were committed to moving forward with the project.

During 2022 budgets deliberations the annual cost of the Southgate's portion of the new radio system was included into the Township's budget.

Staff Comments:

On September 20th and September 21st, 2022, Telequip Systems LTD and Hartman Communications were on site at the Dundalk Fire Hall to transition the Fire Department to the new system. 23 portable, 6 mobile and 1 base radio were supplied by Grey County. The Dundalk Fire Department purchased an additional 2 headsets for the radio which is not captured by the RFP costs from the supplier.

Dundalk Fire Department is the fourth department in Grey County to be put onto the new system.

Financial Implications:

All costs were accounted for in the 2022 operational budget and will continue to be accounted for in future budgets.

Communications & Community Action Plan Impact:

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

Concluding Comments:

1. Staff recommends that Council receive Staff Report FIRE2022-017 for information.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dept. Head: *Original Signed By*

Derek Malynyk, Fire Chief Official

CAO Approval: *Original Signed By*

Dave Milliner, CAO