



Corporation of the Township of Brock

Staff Report to the Mayor and Members of Council

From: Rick Harrison

Position: Fire Chief

Title / Subject: Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

Date of Report: November 9, 2022

Date of Meeting: December 5, 2022

Report No: 2022-PS-017

1.0 Issue / Origin

As previously outlined in Report 2022-PS-02, the fire department's existing Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus's (SCBA's) are approaching the end of life and require replacement and upgrade to meet 2019 NFPA Standards.

2.0 Background

One of the most important pieces of equipment utilized by firefighters is the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). The SCBA provides breathable air in environments with oxygen deficiency, smoke, dangerous gases, and other airborne contaminants that may be otherwise dangerous to breathe.

SCBA's have a life expectancy of 15 years, whereby the air cylinders can no longer be used for fire department operations and the SCBA's do not meet the most recent NFPA Standards.

Our existing SCBA's were purchased over a three (3) year-program, beginning in 2007 and completed in 2009. Therefore, the existing SCBA's will begin their end of life expectancy in 2022, continue in 2023 and end in 2024.

The existing SCBA's were manufactured by MSA and purchased through AJ Stone Company, located in Vaughan, Ontario.

3.0 Analysis

During the 2022 budget deliberations the Fire Chief recommended the implementation of a three (3) year-program to replace the existing SCBA's. As part of the 2022 Capital Budget, Council approved \$285,000 towards Year One of the recommended three (3) year SCBA

replacement program. Year Two and Year Three were forecasted at \$285,000 and \$43,000 respectively.

During 2022 budget deliberations the Fire Chief explained the importance and recommended to sole source the purchase of the SCBA's through our Ontario MSA distributor, AJ Stone Company. AJ Stone Company was utilized for the initial purchase of our existing SCBA's in 2009. The Fire Chief and firefighters felt it was important to maintain the familiarity, safety, training, operation, and consistency of the MSA brand of SCBA's through AJ Stone Company. Council accepted the sole sourcing recommendation.

As per Report 2022-PS-02 dated February 28, 2022 Council approved the Fire Chief to proceed with year one (1) purchasing of the SCBA's within the confines of the 2022 budget amount of \$285,000.

Also, during budget deliberations Council approved \$320,000 capital reserve fund contributions in the fire department equipment reserve account in anticipation of future capital requirements.

The Fire Chief has recently received a quote, (September 7, 2022) from AJ Stone Company in the amount of \$310,095 for year two (2) and \$34,343 for year three (3) of the replacement program (exclusive of HST impacts).

In conversation with Mr. Brad Goodwin of AJ Stone Company, he has indicated that they are anticipating a cost increase of approximately 10%, effective January 1, 2023. The cost increase amounts to an additional \$34,443 (exclusive of HST impacts) to the quoted amount of \$344,438 if purchased before the end of the year.

4.0 Related Policies / Procedures

- Procurement Policy
- 2023 Budget
- Asset Management Plan

5.0 Financial / Budget Assessment

As indicated by the Fire Chief:

- Year two (2) of the SCBA replacement program quote dated September 7, 2022 equals \$310,095 and year three (3) \$34,343 before HST. This funding would usually be requested through the 2023 and 2024 Capital Budget process.
- Staff recommend that the 2023 Capital Budget request be pre-approved in advance of the budget process to avoid a potential price increase.
- And that Council approve the continuation of the sole-source award.
- The Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund has a balance of approximately \$600,000, with a boat replacement (\$130,000) forecasted in 2024 and pumper replacement (\$600,000) forecasted in 2025.

Description	Amount
Year Two	\$310,095.00
Year Three	34,343.00
Pre-Tax Subtotal	\$344,438.00
HST – 13%	44,776.94
Sole Source Award Amount	\$389,214.94
Less: Municipal HST Rebate (11.24%)	(43,747.76)
2023 Capital Budget Pre-Approval Request	\$345,467.18

6.0 Climate Change Impacts

None

7.0 Communications

None

8.0 Conclusion

The quote includes the purchase of the following equipment:

- Twenty-one (21) SCBA's
- Twenty-two (22) rechargeable batteries
- Five (5) facepieces
- Three (3) six (6) bank charging stations
- Forty-four (44) air cylinders

9.0 Recommendation

That report 2022-PS- be received for information;

AND THAT COUNCIL pre-approve the 2023 Capital Budget request of \$345,500 to purchase MSA SCBA's equipment as outlined in report 2022-PS-;

AND THAT the project be funded from the Fire Equipment Reserve Fund;

AND THAT FURTHERMORE the award be sole sourced to AJ Stone Company in the amount of \$344,438 or \$389,214.94 including HST.