



PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 11.1.1

**Halifax Regional Council
January 13, 2009**

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan English".

SUBMITTED BY: _____
Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: December 11, 2008

SUBJECT: Fire - Purchase of Vehicles / Reserve Withdrawals

ORIGIN

Staff

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Regional Council approve an increase to 2008/09 Capital Project Account CVJ01089 in the amount of \$135,000.00, which includes the non-refundable portion of HST for the purchase of three (3) one ton utility vehicles, with funding in the amount of \$135,000.00 to be provided from the Rural Fire Reserve Q128.

BACKGROUND

There is a need to replace 3 utility vehicles, Units 97-106U, 03-313U, and Unit 93-233U as they are no longer serviceable.

DISCUSSION

Since Tax Structure implementation, Fire Services had implemented a Reserve to address issues that arise in the rural areas. At the time of the budget and business planning development, these vehicles had not yet been identified as a priority. On a go forward bases, we are now in a position to address our priorities to align with the Business Planning & budget cycle due to the combining of Rural and Core Operations are now under one umbrella.

The proposed replacement vehicles will also be used to provide snow plowing capabilities in the respective zones. This will significantly cut current costs for snow removal and sanding in stations and dry hydrant areas in those zones. If Council approves the Recommendation contained in this report, Staff will tender the purchase and return to Council with an award recommendation.

Based on an increase to Capital Project Account CVJ01089 in the amount of \$135,000.00 for three (3) new vehicles, to be split as follows:

Zone 1- One (1) Extended Cab 4 X 4, 1 ton Fleetside Pickup with Light Package. \$45,000.00

Western Region- Two (2) Extended Cab 4 X 4, 1 ton Fleetside Pickups with Light Package. \$90,000.00

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Funding is available from the Rural Fire Reserve Q128 in the amount of \$135,000.00 and has been confirmed by Financial Services.

Budget Summary: CVJ01089, Fire Utility Replacement 08/09

Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$ 28,556
Add: Increase from reserve withdrawal (Q128)	<u>\$ 135,000</u>
Balance in Account CVJ01089	\$ 163,556
Balance in Reserve Q128	\$526,455

If there are funds remaining after the tender has been awarded, it will be used for the purchase of vehicles.

This project is estimated at \$135,000.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating Budget, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation. If approved, this will increase the withdrawal from reserves and increase the gross 2008/2009 capital budget but not the net budget.

ALTERNATIVES

Status Quo

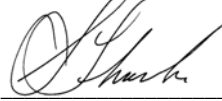
ATTACHMENTS

None

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Gerard Cottreau, Financial Coordinator 490-4260

Report Approved by:



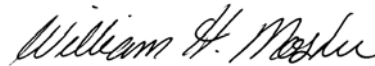
Stephen Thurber, Deputy Chief Director 490-5542

Financial Approval by:



Cathie O'Toole, CGA, Director of Finance, 490-6308

Report Approved by:



William H. Mosher, Chief Director 490-4239

Report Approved by:



Paul Beauchamp, General Manager Fleet Services 490-6604