

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS

STAFF REPORT

DATE: February 2, 2021
TO: Committee of the Whole
FROM: Chad Brown, Fire Chief
SUBJECT: Repair to Emergency Management Generator

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Committee of the Whole recommend Council approve the repair of the backup generator at the firehall / emergency management operations centre and the repairs be funded from reserves.

BACKGROUND:

The backup generator at the firehall is required to ensure fire services and the emergency operations centre are operationally ready for use. Routine start up of the backup power system identified a system failure that prevents the generator from operating.

The generator was purchased in 1999 and installed during construction of the Almonte fire station. This is the first significant repair to the generator since installation.

DISCUSSION:

The backup power generator at the Mississippi Mills Fire Department (MMFD) requires repair due to an electrical control panel failure. The generator was inspected by GAL Power on December 23rd to assess issues and determine why it would not operate. The inspection found that the primary electronic controller requires replacement, the block heater was not working, and the radiator required service. Some of the service work was completed during the service call.

The replacement electronic controller is required so the diesel motor will start and the system power can be properly controlled. Most of the service cost is related to the replacement of the electronic controller.

The 2021 capital budget included funds for maintenance and repairs. The fuel system had known issues that prevented the generator from automatically starting during a power failure. Manual priming of the fuel system by firefighters ensured the generator would start. The fuel drains away from the injectors after sitting preventing automatic

starting. The fuel vendor has requested an inspection of the fuel system before further fueling operations can occur.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

On December 23rd, 2020, GAL Power quoted Mississippi Mills for the scope of work. GAL Power's Quote #13464 estimated the repair of the replacement parts and general service at \$6762.07. This estimate will get the generator operational and further work with the fuel system and electrical distribution remains outstanding.

Although the 2021 budget provided funds for servicing of the generator, the scope of work for the controller repairs was beyond those that were planned in the Emergency Management budget. Therefore, the repair costs of \$6762.07 are beyond the planned expenditures and requires approval to be funded from reserves.

SUMMARY:

I recommend that the generator be repaired from reserve funds to support the operational readiness of the Emergency Operations Centre and backup power for fire department operations.

Respectfully submitted by,

Reviewed by:



Chad Brown
Fire Chief



Ken Kelly
CAO