THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS STAFF REPORT

DATE: January 26, 2021

TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Chad Brown, Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Fire Protection Agreement to Provide Automatic Aid

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Committee of the Whole recommend to Council that it authorize the Mayor and Acting Clerk to execute a Fire Protection Agreement for Automatic Aid with the Township of Lanark Highlands.

BACKGROUND:

Council approved the Mississippi Mills Fire Department (MMFD) to provide fire protection services, with cost recovery, to Lanark Highlands Fire Service (LHFS) after September 1, 2020. Council directed the CAO to negotiate a formal Fire Protection Agreement with Lanark Highlands.

MMFD and LHFS have developed a Fire Protection Agreement for Automatic Aid that outlines service delivery and details the cost recovery of fire protection services. The Agreement specifies the level of service that will be provided during emergency response and the apparatus that will respond.

DISCUSSION:

Lanark Highlands has requested Mississippi Mills to provide fire protection services to a portion of their municipality as Automatic Aid.

The LHFS and MMFD have developed an agreement that will ensure protective services in a defined area and ensure services are delivered by Mississippi Mills with cost recovery. MMFD will be the sole provider of lower risk services and will offer a supplemental fire response to LHFS for higher risk incidents. The Agreement ensures apparatus and staff remain available in Mississippi Mills should our fire department be required to respond to an incident.

MMFD has responded to one (1) incident between September 1 and December 31, 2020. The defined area in Lanark Highlands typically generates an average of six (6) incidents per year.

The Fire Protection Agreement has been finalized and is ready to be executed between our two municipalities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The Municipality of Mississippi Mills will not bear any cost for fire protection services provided under the Automatic Aid Agreement. The Agreement specifies how cost recovery will be determined for each incident type.

SUMMARY:

The Fire Protection Agreement is beneficial to Mississippi Mills and Lanark Highlands as both municipalities support each other with fire protection services. The agreement strengthens our relationship with our neighbours and builds a strong bond between the fire services.

Respectfully submitted by,

Chad Brown, Fire Chief Reviewed by:

Ken Kelly, CAO