

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS

STAFF REPORT

DATE: August 10, 2021
TO: Council
FROM: Chad Brown, Fire Chief
SUBJECT: Fire Safety Grant Transfer Payment Agreement

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT, the Committee of the Whole recommend Council receive the report for information and direct staff to submit this report to the Office of the Fire Marshal as per the requirements of the funding agreement.

BACKGROUND:

On April 6, 2021, Council authorized the Clerk and Treasurer to execute a Fire Safety Grant Transfer Payment Agreement with the Province of Ontario. The Agreement formed part of the Ontario governments 2021 COVID-19 Relief Funding for Municipalities program. The program is intended to help municipalities respond to ongoing and unprecedented 2021 COVID-19 operating pressures. Municipalities have the flexibility to use this funding to address the specific priorities of their communities based on their unique COVID-19 related operating pressures. Funds must be used to support fire department training or to support a virtual inspection program to enhance the existing in-person inspection program.

The Municipality of Mississippi Mills (MMFD) will receive \$7,800.00 through the funding process. The Mississippi Mills Fire Department has applied the available funding to our training and fire prevention inspection operations. The final stage to receive the funding requires a report be submitted to the Office of the Fire Marshal by September 1, 2021 to outline how the grant was utilized at the department level.

DISCUSSION:

The Mississippi Mills Fire Department (MMFD) has proceeded with the purchase of tools that will enhance the training of firefighters and increase the electronic inspection capabilities for fire safety inspections. The following items have been purchased utilizing a combination of the funds specified in the Fire Safety Grant Transfer Payment Agreement and from approved 2021 Budget:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| • 4 Computer Tablets with docking stations | \$8360 |
| • Smart TV with integrated communications | \$2475 |

The Smart TV replaces one that was damaged when the fire station experienced an electrical power surge in 2020. The new TV supports the training and development of firefighters as well as serving as a functional tool in the emergency operations centre.

The tablets support fire safety inspections as well as firefighter training. Many educational courses have moved to online delivery and the tablets are used to accommodate student learning. The tablets also support fire safety inspections by permitting the inspector to access property information and log information into the computer system while in the field. Data is entered into the tablet during an inspection and pictures are obtained to support the inspection which is also logged during data entry. Data is stored in our existing FirePro software system. MMFD will continue to work with IT to ensure the functionality of the tablets with FirePro.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

No further Budget funding is required for this project.

SUMMARY:

The Mississippi Mills Fire Department thanks the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management for the Fire Safety Grant Transfer Payment. This Council Report confirms the Fire Safety Grant Project is complete and will serve as the final reporting mechanism specified in the Agreement.

Respectfully submitted by,

Reviewed by:



Chad Brown
Fire Chief



Ken Kelly
CAO