



Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: February 10, 2025

Subject: FIRE-2025-02 Fire Department Equipment Purchase - Paratech
Rescue Airbag and Amkus Combi Cutter

Report from: Steve Tiernan, Fire Chief

Attachment

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that

1. Council hereby approves Report FIRE-2025-02 Fire Department Equipment Purchase - Paratech Rescue Airbag and Amkus Combi Cutter; and further
2. Approves the purchase of the Paratech Airbag system \$11,589.00 plus HST and Amkus Combi Cutter \$19,458.07 plus HST for Tara Station 70 as approved in the 2025 Capital budget; and further
3. That Council, approves an exemption to Article 4.4 of the Procurement Policy, to waive the requirement to proceed with three quotes.

Background

Approved in the 2025 Capital Budget process, an Airbag System and Hydraulic Cutter and Spreader were identified for replacement due to age and consistent breakdowns rendering them unsafe.

Under the procurement policy Section 4.4 purchases between \$5,001 and \$20,000 require three written competitive quotes be obtained and recommendation submitted to Council for approval.

Analysis

Since 2022, when all three Municipal fire departments, Tara, Paisley and Chesley were amalgamated into Arran-Elderslie Fire & Emergency Services and the Master

Fire Plan was created. One goal that was identified was to standardize the way the fire stations operated, this included training and equipment.

Paisley Station 80 required new airbags and the Paratech system was updated in 2023. Paisley Firefighters Association raised \$42,000 for new E Hydraulic Auto Extrication tools and through trying out different systems Amkus E Hydraulic Rescue tools were chosen. Amkus also runs off a Dewalt battery system that all three stations use today, for their other battery-operated tools, grinders, saws etc.

Moving forward, as we align our tools, we need to replace them, where possible we will standardize the equipment.

Staff is seeking an exemption from the Procurement Policy By-Law 59-09 Expenditure Controls 4.4. requiring 3 quotes as A.J Stone is a vendor for the Paratech Airbag System and M&L is the sole vendor for Amkus tools in Ontario.

Both vendors have been used in the Municipality for many years and service the equipment they sell to us.

Link to Strategic/Master Plan

14.1 Fire Apparatus and Equipment

Fire Master Plan (2020)

6.6 Modernizing Services

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding/Link to Procurement Policy

Included in the 2025 budget, project 25-FIRE-4121 (02-4121) Tara Vehicle Rescue Air Bag System Replacement was budgeted at \$13,500. The Paratech Airbag system above will cost \$11,793 (\$11,589 plus \$203.97 in non-refundable HST) – under budget. The surplus will be returned to the Tara Bell Mobility Reserve (01-0000-7227)

In the 2025 budget, under project 25-FIRE-4120 (02-4120) Tara Vehicle Rescue Hydraulic Cutter and Spreader Replacement budgeted at \$19,800. The Amkus Combi Cutter above will cost \$19,800 (\$19,458.07 plus \$342.44 in non-refundable HST) – right on budget!

Approved by: Emily Dance, Chief Administrative Officer