

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JUNE 3, 2002**

### **FIRE STATION NETWORKING (ITEM 9, BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 27, 2002)**

#### **Recommendation**

The Budget Sub-Committee recommends:

That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Fire Chief, dated May 27, 2002, be approved, subject to the source of funding being Fire Reserve.

#### **Report of the Fire Chief**

The Fire Chief recommends that:

- 1) Capital Budget Project #3151 Fire Station Networking, originally submitted in 2002 as a single-phase project for the amount of \$108,000 but not included in the approved 2002 Capital Budget, be APPROVED at this time, as a Two-Phase Project in 2002 and 2003; and that
- 2) The source of funding for Project #3151 Phase One, be allocated from the balance of the unexpended funding from Project #3153 Digital Logging System, i.e. \$48,000 and the balance of the project be funded in 2003.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this item is to seek approval of Capital Budget Project #3151 Fire Station Networking, as a two-phase project funded over budget-years 2002 and 2003 and to use unexpended funding from Project #3153 Digital Logging System, of which \$48,000 is no longer required.

#### **Background - Analysis and Options**

Capital Project #3153 Digital Logging System was approved in 2002 at an estimated cost of \$52,000 to replace the analog tape recorder system in the fire communications centre. However, Deputy Fire Chief Duncan, as manager for this project, has since been successful in obtaining funding for this digital logger, from the Region of York Fire Coordinator, as part of the radio system upgrade/ migration to the police radio system, for future transfer to the new regional fire dispatch centre, less \$4,000 required to be expended to upgrade the building power supply to the system.

During the 2002 budget review process, project 3151 Fire Station Networking \$108,000 was deferred to 2003.

It is now intended to request that \$48,000 (approved \$52,000 less expended \$4,000 for the power supply that was not included with the logger device) be re-allocated to the fire station networking project, to fund the first-phase.

#### **Conclusion**

The lack of e-mail and networking capability between the Civic Centre, Fire Stations and Departmental Divisions results in difficulties in communicating effectively. The approval of this Project Phase-One \$48,000 will assist in the timely distribution of corporate and departmental communications and exchange of incident and operational reports between operational, administrative and divisional staff, as well as links to other corporate departments/users.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Bernie Di Vona, Chair