

**NEW CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF VAUGHAN AND THE TOWNSHIP OF KING FOR THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY FIRE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES**

**Recommendation**

The Acting Fire Chief, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, recommends:

1. That Council approve a new agreement that allows the City of Vaughan to continue to provide Emergency Fire Communications Services for the Township of King and areas serviced by the King Fire and Emergency Services.
2. That Council enact a by-law authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute an Agreement on behalf of the City of Vaughan in substantially the form attached to the By-law, subject to final approval by the Acting Fire Chief and Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services and City Solicitor.

**Economic Impact**

This contract will maintain a positive revenue stream of \$35,000 to Vaughan Fire & Rescue Service for provision of this service to King Township. It should be noted that Vaughan is able to provide the emergency fire communications service at no additional cost to Vaughan. Vaughan has always had the capacity to service King's needs as well as our own without investing any additional resources.

**Purpose**

The purpose of the contract is to retain King Township as a customer for Emergency Fire Communications Services

**Background – Analysis and Options**

The City of Vaughan has provided emergency fire communications services for the Township of King for at least the last 35 years. All 9-1-1 calls related to fire emergencies for King Township, and parts of New Tecumseth that are serviced by the King Fire and Emergency Services, are directed to the Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services Communications Centre. Vaughan Communications Operators take the required information from the caller and then dispatch the appropriate King Township Fire Station.

The authority for the provision of this service is outlined in a contract between the two municipalities. The contracts have always laid out the services to be provided and a formula to determine how much King Township would pay for the contracted service.

From 1971 until 2000, King Township paid a portion of salary costs based on a comparison of population and assessment values.

In 2000, a new contract was negotiated with King Township in order to increase Vaughan's revenues. The new formula required King Township to pay a percentage of the *total cost* of running the communications centre based on a comparison of population, assessment values and number of incidents. In 2001, the first full year of the contract, King Township paid \$51,699.11.

Presently, there are three municipalities that offer emergency fire communications services to other municipalities. These relationships are outlined in the following chart:

<b>Vaughan</b>	<b>Richmond Hill</b>	<b>Markham</b>
King Township	Aurora	Whitchurch-Stouffville
	Newmarket	
	Georgina	
	East Gwillimbury	

In late 2005, the Richmond Hill Fire Department, through the Richmond Hill CAO's office, sent an invitation to all municipalities in York Region to enter into discussions for the provision of emergency fire communications services.

Vaughan and King Township both entered discussions with Richmond Hill and while Vaughan's negotiations are much more complex, it was a straightforward decision for King Township. Richmond Hill offered to provide King Township with emergency fire communications at a rate of \$1.96 per capita or \$38,220.

The previous administration in the King Fire and Emergency Services wished to switch their communications provider from Vaughan to Richmond Hill without discussion with Vaughan. However, discussions were undertaken with the new Fire Chief in King Township, hired in March/06, and senior management from Vaughan Fire and Rescue Service. As a result, a new contract for the service at a reduced cost was negotiated and despite the competing interests for this service, a positive revenue stream of \$35,000 was maintained.

#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007**

This report complies with Vaughan Vision 2007, B-2 – Maximize Revenue and Tax Base.

This report recommends a change from the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have not been allocated.

#### **Conclusion**

Given the competing interests for the provision of this service and in order to maintain a positive revenue stream of \$35,000 per annum, the City of Vaughan should enter into a new agreement for the provision of emergency fire communications services with the Township of King.

#### **Attachments**

None

#### **Report prepared by:**

G. Duncan, Deputy Fire Chief

Respectfully submitted,

G. R. Senay, Acting Fire Chief