



STAFF REPORT

SUBMITTED BY: Dwayne Hunt

DATE: October 10, 2020

SUBJECT: Fire Department Honor Guard Items

ORIGIN

A request was received from the Woods Harbour Shag Harbour Volunteer Fire Department (WHSHFD) for the Municipality to purchase various honor guard items to be accessible to the departments when needed.

BACKGROUND

After the sudden passing last year of long-time WSHFD Chief, Gordie Ross, the Department thought it would be valuable to have honor guard items easily accessible for municipal fire departments to use in a time of need. When Gordie passed, the Department scrambled to find honor guard items for the funeral, making the situation even more stressful than it already was.

DISCUSSION

As noted in the attached letter, the Department is requesting that a bell, an honor guard kit and a large Canada flag be purchased. After receiving the request, I asked for input from the other fire departments and they also believe that it would be good to have these items available for future use. They suggested that the items be kept in a display case in a prominent place in the Municipal Administrative Centre.

The fire chiefs also voiced that this would be as good or better show of appreciation as having a banquet.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The cost to purchase the items would be approximately \$2,500. We did not budget for this purchase, however we did budget \$4,000 for a banquet that will not be able to happen due to current COVID-19 restrictions. Therefore, the cost of the items could be purchased with that unused budget amount.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

PUBLIC CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATIONS

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

Due to the fact that the banquet was a way the Municipality could recognize our volunteers' efforts and dedication and these items would achieve the same, I recommend that the items be purchased using a portion of the budget earmarked for the banquet.

SUGGESTED MOTION

Move to expend \$2,500 of the \$4,000 earmarked for the volunteer firefighter's banquet to purchase a large Canadian flag, and honor guard kit and a bell.

ATTACHMENTS

1. WSHFD request
2. Quotes

Woods Harbour Shag Harbour Volunteer Fire Department

September 14, 2020

Municipality of the District of Barrington

On Behalf of the Wood's Harbour / Shag Harbour Volunteer Fire Department the following request is being made;

A motion was made by Brian Nickerson and seconded by Jason Shand that the municipality of Barrington be requested to purchase, store, maintain and to make available to a grieving fire department for funeral purposes.

- a) **1 # Brass bell and hammer similar to that of the Shelburne Fire Department with the inscription "In Memory of Gordon Ross" on the bell.**
- b) **2 # fire axes**
- c) **2 # pike poles**
- d) **A large flag approximately 18 feet x 25 feet or a similar size that can be hung between ariel ladders.**

From experience, this fire department learned the difficulty in finding equipment such as this on short notice and feel and understand that no other department should have to use the time of grieving, searching to honour a fallen member of the department.

Should there be other requests for the use of this equipment, an example of the ringing of the bell for lost mariners in the area, where this equipment may be partially or fully requested for memorial or other purposes the use may be designated for such purposes as deemed appropriate by municipal staff.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Shannon Newell, Secretary, WSHVFD



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This bell stands 13" tall and 7" in diameter. The solid walnut base measures: 3" high by 9" square.

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