

## **SPECIAL MEETING**

### **EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

#### **RE: MASTER FIRE PLAN REVIEW**

Fire Administration Building  
61 Dundas Street East, Paris  
Thursday, March 27, 2008  
6:00 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor Eddy, Councillors Wheat, Schmitt, Haggart, Powell and Hodge.

**Others:** Councillors Gatward and Simons, and Bruce Barrett.

**Staff:** Underwood, Hayman, H. Smith and Carman.

Councillor Wheat in the Chair.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by – Councillor Schmitt

Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That the Special Emergency Services Committee meeting agenda for March 27, 2008 be accepted.

.Carried

#### **MASTER FIRE PLAN REVIEW**

Geoff Hayman, Fire Prevention/Inspection Officer presented the current Council-approved Master Fire Plan, noting that the intention of this review is to monitor, evaluate and revise the document to add another year to the five-year plan. Mr. Hayman outlined the status (completed, in process or in the planning stages) of the fifteen items included in the Master Fire Plan, as follows:

1. Aerial Ladder Truck – replaced in December 2007.
2. Ice and Water Rescue Training and Equipment – training of half of Paris and Onondaga firefighters completed, remainder to be trained in Spring 2008 and Winter 2009 – equipment to be acquired over the next twelve months
3. Pre-Fire Planning - some training already completed, designed to improve firefighter safety and increase efficiency and effectiveness of resources
4. Incident Safety Officer – provides firefighter safety input to the Incident Commander – some training completed and more training in the planning stage
5. Water Supply – initial identification and surveys of dependable water supply – Rural Firefighting Fee assists in establishing water sources for rural firefighting
6. Training and Professional Development – additional courses to be offered
7. Respiratory Protection Program – policies and training in place – working with the City of Brantford on a program for the proper fitting of equipment
8. Training Ground Facilities – use of unused/discarded structures continuing, plus other training opportunities, including the potential for a local Brant County training facility for the County, City and Six Nations Fire Departments.

9. Training of Dispatch Staff – Communications Conference attendance and training on computer programs, with continuing mentoring and coaching of staff.
10. Data and Records Management - integration of FirePro continuing
11. Apparatus and Equipment Replacement – changes will be made to the replacement schedules to take into account the redeployment of fire apparatus, equipment changes and technological improvements and the need to replace personal protective equipment
12. Facilities – ongoing maintenance and upgrades to existing facilities
13. Fire Prevention and Public Education – required under the Fire Protection and Prevention Act – smoke alarm awareness - four volunteer Fire Prevention Officers currently doing inspections - require continuing support through the budget process
14. Succession Planning – required at both the Administration and station level
15. Dispatch Centre – preliminary research and planning started

Mr. Hayman explained that the next steps in the Master Fire Planning process is to continue to evaluate the current program, prepare the year-end report and prepare the apparatus and equipment replacement schedule/capital forecast for review during the 2009 budget process.

In response to questions, Mr. Hayman provided the following information:

- a report on the Training Officer position will be considered at the next Emergency Services meeting
- a Zodiac is to be purchased for the Onondaga Fire Hall
- more ice and water training will be completed late this year or early in 2009
- a report to be considered at a future meeting will address the results of a site meeting to review access and the need for ramps to get rescue equipment to the river
- the number of inspection hours were reduced in the 2008 budget
- there are 162 fire personnel
- much of the personal protective firefighters' equipment will need to be replaced when it has reached the end of its lifespan
- one more dry hydrant is planned for the Burford area
- the percentage of development charges that are allocated to Fire are to be reviewed by Senior Management
- the payroll component of FirePro has not been implemented yet
- the defibrillation program may be increasing – a Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) program is being established with the Heart and Stroke Foundation to install defibrillators in more public places – there are two certified instructors through the Ambulance Department, and some County employees have been trained – members of other organizations can also receive training, although instructions are included with each PAD so that anyone can use the defibrillator – it was suggested that the locations of public access defibrillators should be communicated to the public.

Bruce Barrett expressed his appreciation to the County of Brant on behalf of the County's volunteer firefighters for the new equipment and training provided to them.

It was agreed that a meeting date would be established at the May Emergency Services meeting for the Fall to review the status of the Master Fire Plan and the apparatus and equipment replacement schedules/capital forecast for the 2009 budget process.

The Committee adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Secretary