

## **COUNCIL REPORT**

**To:** Mayor and Council

**From:** Jamie Guise

**Date:** April 17, 2024

**Subject:** New Wildland Type 5 Fire Truck – Capital Purchase

---

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council awards the purchase of a 2024 Wildland truck to Commercial Emergency Equipment Co. for a price of \$244,987.20 plus GST;

AND THAT Council authorizes the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the contract and any other related documentation.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Mackenzie formerly had a small 1980 International pump truck, equipped with a 200-gallon tank and a fire pump built in. This apparatus had off road capabilities and went places that the large engines could not access. This was removed from the fleet in 2008 and replaced with the skid pack.

To accommodate wildland response a skid pack has been placed in the box of a station truck during the summer months. This is done with a front wheel loader because of the size and weight of the ski pack. We have two problems with the skid pack. If this truck must go outside the Fire response area, the skid pack is often removed until that truck is back. The other problem is that it requires too much storage space; the skid pack limits the space in the back of station trucks where contaminated hose and equipment often get loaded after fires to be brought back for cleaning.

### **Planning for this Purchase**

The District's current emergency fleet includes:

- 2 Engine Trucks at Fire Hall #1
- 1 Rescue Unit
- 2 Station Trucks
- 1 Quint (Ladder truck with pumping capabilities)

These are all large apparatuses. Due to the size and weight of the current apparatuses, our current fleet has challenges responding to certain emergencies. For example, if we needed to access cross country ski trails, our larger apparatuses are limited to where they can go and stage (prepare an area for fighting a fire). A smaller apparatus is therefore desirable because it is more maneuverable and lighter so it can access these hard-to-reach areas. A Wildland truck is the specialized apparatus that can take personnel and equipment into these areas more safely and quickly.

Staff solicited quotes from suppliers in November 2023 to produce capital funding request for Council to consider as part of the 2024 Provisional Capital budget. Several wildland trucks were considered, but the prices were too expensive. As a result, staff downsized the truck to one that is more affordable but plans to have certain upgrades. The quotes received came in close to \$220,000 and an additional \$30,000 for upgrades and purchasing additional equipment to completely outfit the truck.

### **Procurement Process**

Administration submitted a Request for Proposals publicly via BC Bid and the District of Mackenzie website for a Wildland Fire Truck from March 22, 2024, to April 12, 2024. The proposal was for a new Crew cab 1-ton 4x4 Wildland pump truck. The proposal also included a separate price on upgrades to the truck. Upgrade 1 was a suspension lift with larger tires to be installed. Upgrade 2 was a large push bumper to replace the factory bumper and the installation of a Warn Winch. Staff received three proposals from separate suppliers.

<b>Company</b>	<b>BID</b>	<b>Cost of upgrade</b>	<b>Total</b>
Rocky Mountain Phoenix	\$283,978	\$58,957	\$342, 935
Express Custom Trailer Mfg Inc.	\$229,982.65	\$8431.60	\$238,414.25
Commercial Emergency Equipment Co.	\$209,671.85	\$35,315.35	\$244,987.20

### **These prices do not include the GST.**

Commercial Emergency Equipment Co proposal made the lowest bid on the proposal. This bid includes all of the requested upgrades and meets our budget. The apparatus is in stock and can be delivered in July 2024 after completing the upgrades.

Staff reviewed these submissions and determined that purchasing the Wildland truck from Commercial Emergency Equipment Co. meets the requirements of the community in a reasonable time frame and budget.

### **Moving Forward**

Staff recommend immediately moving forward with the purchase of the wildland truck because the company is not able to secure the purchase of the apparatus due to high demand.

Some equipment will need to be purchased to outfit the apparatus. The District does currently have some of the required equipment that will be used to keep costs down.

### **BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

\$250,000 would be allocated from the Fire Department Vehicle and Equipment Reserve.

### **COUNCIL PRIORITY:**

#### **Strong Governance and Finances**

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

### **RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

Keinan Carty, Deputy Fire Chief

**Reviewed by:** Corporate and Financial Services

**Approved by:** Chief Administrative Officer