

Town of Riverview

COUNCIL REPORT FORM



Presented to: Mayor and Council

Department: Town of Riverview – Emergency Measures Organization

Date: September 19, 2017

Subject: Request Additional EMO Capital Funding for 2017

Agenda Item: 7a.4

Meeting Date: COW 09/25/2017

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BACKGROUND

In order to prepare for the 2018 ice and snow storm season and other potential disasters, I would like to request additional EMO Capital Funding in 2017. This funding would be needed for the following two projects:

1. Funding to relocate the EMO Emergency Operations Center from the Council Chambers to the Gunningsville Training Room at Town Hall;
2. Urgent electrical repairs to the Town's portable back-up generator.

I am making these request for the following reasons:

1. Relocate the EMO Emergency Operations Center (EOC):

The Primary Town EOC is located in the Council Chambers. Some of the challenges with the current location are as follows:

- a. If we were to have an extended emergency such as an ice storm, major snow storm or other community crisis, which may require the activation of the Emergency Operations Center, we may be required to use the Council Chambers for several days, potentially weeks.

Recent examples of this type of situation are:

- a) During the ice storm in January 2017, some of the residents in the Acadia region lost power for up to 13 days. Their EOC was operational for most of that time period.
- b) During the large Syrian refugee influx last year, there was quite the challenge coordinating social services, apartment rentals, transportation, security, etc. The City of Moncton felt that it would be best for their EOC operations to coordinate the planning and logistics to deal with the new challenges. This required the EOC to be open for several weeks (approx. 5-6 weeks). The City of

Moncton EOC is located in City Hall. The location for their EOC is also used as a meeting room. The City of Moncton did not want to tie up their meeting room for several weeks so the EOC was relocated to an Ad Hoc location in a training room at the Fire Department's Station 2 on St George Street.

If either of these events would have happened in Riverview, we would have needed to take over the Council Chambers for an extended period of time.

- b. Currently we do not have an appropriate location to place the media for press conferences. If we relocate the EOC to the Gunningsville Room, we would be able to hold the press conference in the Council Chambers during scheduled times which would be controlled by the EMO Public Information Officer (PIO).
- c. The Council Chambers is a very nice venue. Unfortunately, we cannot set it up as an effective EOC. An operational EOC would typically have white boards, clocks, a mounted TV, planning charts and organization charts secured permanently on the walls, etc. It would not be appropriate to mount these items in the Council Chambers. If we could relocate to the Gunningsville Room we can set it up accordingly. This would also provide additional training aids for classes being held in the Gunningsville Room.

The cost to relocate the EOC to the Gunningsville Room would be approximately \$7,500.

2. Urgent electrical repairs to the Town's portable back-up generator.

The Town currently owns a portable back-up generator. I should stress that when I say "portable" it means that it is not permanently installed to the ground or a facility. It is still heavy enough that it will need to be lifted by a piece of heavy equipment and delivered by flatbed truck.

It was the standby generator for the old Public Works building. It requires both mechanical and electrical repairs. The Town's mechanics can perform the mechanical repairs. The electrical repairs are more extensive.

During the Acadia Peninsula Ice Storm, the provincial report made the following comments and recommendations for communities:

Warming Centres and Shelters

Ensure that centres have appropriate provisions and equipment, including generators.

During the ice storm event, the selection of sites for warming centres and shelters was made more difficult because the outage was so geographically large. As such, it became critical to find locations with generators or where generators could be set up. These locations were swapped out for better locations once power began being restored or once appropriate generators could be installed.

By identifying locations ahead of time, communities would be in a better position to ensure that the locations are equipped with portable or standby generators and have the necessary facilities and equipment to provide the services people are seeking at the centres (e.g., kitchen equipment and supplies to heat and serve hot food, showers and bathrooms, electrical outlets for powering electronics, and ample room for cots if the centre is to be used as a shelter).

Recommendation 37 *The selection and equipping of locations for warming/reception centres and shelters should be undertaken strategically at the regional level to ensure that resources - especially, volunteers, equipment, and responder support—can be optimized both before and during emergencies.*

Ref: NB Ice Storm 2017 report p.36

This generator would be used to help provide short term power to Warming/Reception Centers, Shelters or other town assets as decided by the Town Emergency Operations Center. Currently the Town only has only one Warming/Reception Center or Shelter with a back-up generator. It can only accommodate up to 650 residents. If we repair this generator, we should be able to supply back up power to another facility to accommodate another 600 residents.

The cost to complete the repairs on this generator will be approx. \$5,000 (+HST).

CONSIDERATIONS

Financial: Total cost for both projects will be approximately \$12,500. The 2017 Capital budget included \$25,000 for Building repairs and maintenance. Originally planned for the RCMP facility that work was delayed so those funds are available.

Stakeholders: Potential Town of Riverview residents forced to evacuate their home during an emergency situation.

Strategic Plan: This funding request is supported by the Town Strategic Plan under the theme of Riverview being a “**Safe and Welcoming Community**” which promote opportunities to maintain community safety.

OPTIONS:

- a) Council denies this request entirely. Doing so would continue to minimize the operational efficiency of the current Emergency Operational Center and risk having insufficient shelters for our residents during a massive power outage or other emergency situation.
- b) Council defers this request to the 2018 budget process. If it is approved in the 2018 budget process, it could take a month or two to get the work done. This puts us right in the middle of storm season. We may not have it completed in time before a potential major storm in January/February 2018.

- c) Council approves this funding in the current 2017 budget to ensure the work is completed in 2017 before the 2018 ice/snow storm season.

RECOMMENDATION FROM STAFF

I request that Council supports “Option C” and provide this EMO Capital funding request for 2017.

That Council approve the reallocation of the funds in the current 2017 budget to ensure the proposed EMO Infrastructure Plan is completed in 2017 before the 2018 ice/snow storm season.

Prepared by: Chief Denis Pleau

CAO Approval: _____

Date of Approval: _____

Report Approval Details

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| Document Title: | Request Additional EMO Capital Budget Funding for 2017.docx |
| Attachments: | - EMO Funding Request for 2017.docx.pdf |
| Final Approval Date: | Sep 18, 2017 |

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Colin Smith - Sep 18, 2017 - 3:11 PM