



**Municipality of North Middlesex
North Middlesex Fire Committee
Minutes January 9/2024**

Date: January 9, 2024

Time: 7:00PM to 9:00PM

Location: Shared Services Centre, Boardroom
229 Parkhill Main St, Parkhill, ON

Call to Order:

Motion to call the Fire Committee Meeting to order at 7:02PM

Roll Call

Present: Chair - Councillor Adrian Cornelissen
Mayor Brian Ropp
Councillor Chuck Daigle

Staff: Fire Chief Greg Vandenheuvel
Deputy Chief Scott Jones
District Chief Rob Densmore

Secretary, Judy Gratton

Regrets: CAO, Carolyn Tripp

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Approved the November 9, 2024, minutes with amendments.

**MOTION F/C #001/2024
DAIGLE/VANDENHEUVEL**

CARRIED

4. PROVISION FOR PECUNIARY INTEREST- NONE

5. PREVIOUS BUSINES:

Discussion about 2024 meeting dates.

Due to conflicts on Thursday evenings, it was decided that the Committee will meet on the following Tuesday nights –

- Tuesday, March 5, 2024
- Tuesday, May 7, 2024
- Tuesday, September 3, 2024
- Tuesday, November 5, 2024

MOTION F/C #002/2024

ROPP/DAIGLE

CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Fire Protection Agreement with Lucan-Biddulph –

The committee reviewed the proposed Fire Protection Agreement with Lucan Biddulph to provide direction to FC Vandenheuevel as to the amount to include in the 2024 budget. Lucan Biddulph has proposed a 10% increase in each year of the three-year agreement. The committee recommended that the CAO meet with the Lucan CAO and negotiate an agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

A recommendation to Council that the CAO of the Municipality of North Middlesex meet with the CAO of Lucan-Biddulph to negotiate the terms of the new Fire Protection Agreement between the Lucan Biddulph and North Middlesex.

MOTION F/C #003/2024

DAIGLE/VANDENHEUVEL

CARRIED

b) Options for replacement of the Engine –

The Committee discussed options around replacing one of the Engines ahead of the recommended 25-year mark. FC Vandenheuevel brought an option of purchasing a used American apparatus through a Canadian company that finds used fire trucks that are leased and returned after 10 years, converted to meet Canadian specifications and can be used for the rest of their 25-year life cycle. Initial discussions suggest a 10 year old truck could be purchased for around \$450,00.00 (as opposed to a new fire truck which would cost approximately \$750,00.00). The Committee decided not to pursue that

option and will look for a new Engine based on the specifications developed by the Truck Build Committee.

CR Daigle had also requested that FC Vandeneuvel would create a spreadsheet showing each truck and they need to be replaced.

It was suggested that the members of the Committee meet with the Treasurer to discuss the funding for the Fire Trucks. CR Cornelissen will contact the Treasurer and find a time to meet for approximately an hour at the Municipal Office.

Mayor Ropp, CR Daigle, and FC Vandeneuvel will also try to be present depending on the day.

c) The renovation to the Ailsa Craig Station –

FC Vandeneuvel stated there has been no progress on the potential renovation to the washroom/shower facilities at the Ailsa Craig Station. “As Built” plans can not be located to facilitate the design of the renovation. We will look for other ways of moving forward and determining if the project can even be achieved. FC Vandeneuvel was advised to continue with the intent to provide a design with an estimation of cost for renovations. FC Vandeneuvel will need the cost for the design to put towards the 2024 budget.

d) Update on the Training Facility –

Discussion about the proposed training facility centered on a December visit to the Meaford site with the new Lambton Shores Fire Chief, a potential vendor of sea cans and a member of the Fire Department with experience in managing construction projects.

The Lambton Shores Chief is interested in partnering on the project.

The sea-can supplier also does modifications to the cannisters and is able to do the required fabrication modifications (cutting and welding). The vendor is working on a plan and eventually an estimate of the cost to do the work. Used cannisters can be used for the project, reducing the cost by almost half (\$23,600 for seven as opposed to the original quote for new at \$45,000).

District Chief Densmore stated that the quality of the training in such a facility would be much better than a classroom set-up (crawling around the floor of the community centre doesn't equate well to crawling through a mock-up of a furnished home).

There was discussion about what sharing the cost and access would be. FC Vandeneuvel used as an example that Lambton Shores has a ‘live fire’ prop which we could have access to if we share access to this proposed facility.

Chair CR Cornelissen inquired about how many sea cans would be required, and FC Vandenheuvel stated Meaford had 7 for the facility, plus an additional, smaller cannister for storage.

Mayor Ropp asked if there was any type of grant or funding available that could be obtained to offset the cost. FC Vandenheuvel mentioned that our Economic Development/Communications Co-ordinator, had discussed corporate sponsorships such as insurance companies, etc. to help offset the costs. Chair CR Cornelissen also suggested that he reach out to the other two municipalities and see how much they are willing to commit.

e) Other New Business -

FC Vandenheuvel let the committee know that they had purchased two (2) new defibrillators as per the discussion at the November 9th 2023 meeting.

Chair CR Cornelissen inquired about the Fire Protection Agreement with Lambton Shores. The Committee is reluctant to enter into the proposed agreement due to the billing of the MTO rate for trucks that respond (in contrast to the Lucan Agreement which is a flat rate). DC Jones suggested maybe we could suggest a pay per use agreement as we (Parkhill station) only had a total of 7 calls from 2018 to 2021. FC Vandenheuvel will be meeting with the Lambton Shores Fire Chief and will propose this alternative.

7. Adjournment at 8:28pm

**MOTION F/C #004/2024
ROPP/JONES**

(Chair)

(Secretary)