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Item No. 14.1.2
Halifax Regional Council
February 7, 2017

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed by 

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

Original Signed by 

Jane Fraser, Acting Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: December 2, 2016

SUBJECT: Award - Quotation 16-104, Purchase of one (1) Mobile Command Unit

ORIGIN

Approved 2016/17 Capital Budget - Fire Apparatus Replacement (p.C1). This account is used for the replacement of Fire Apparatus Fleet. Regular replacement of these units is necessary to support continued operations.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

79 (1) The Council may expend money required by the Municipality for (g) equipping and maintaining fire departments or emergency services providers;

Administrative Order #35, the Procurement Policy, requires Council to approve the award of contracts for sole sources exceeding \$50,000 or \$500,000 for tenders and RFP's.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Regional Council:

Award Tender 16-104 for one (1) Mobile Command vehicle to Tri-Star Industries, the lowest bidder meeting specifications, for \$742,621 (net HST included) with funding from Project Account No. CVJ01088 - Fire Apparatus Replacement, as outlined in the Financial Implications section of this report.

BACKGROUND

Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency (HRFE) uses their fleet of vehicles to provide emergency support to the residents of Halifax.

HRFE currently use a 52' trailer, pulled by a tractor, as a fire command unit. HRFE Commanders request the command unit at fire and emergency scenes; however due to challenges deploying it, locating it at a site, and limited licensed operators (NS Class 1, with Air Brake Endorsement required); Commanders usually limit their requests for the trailer, to incidents of lengthier duration.

In addition to the challenges of deploying the existing command trailer to an emergency scene, it also has limited command functionality, poor interior configuration, minimal communication support technology, no workable separate meeting space, and is not configured to the Incident Command System (ICS) structure for the roles required under the ICS model. As a result, HRFE Division Commanders tend to function in the Command role from their work SUVs for events. A mobile command unit would be more feasible, providing additional functionality.

It is anticipated that the Fire Command Unit will be used by EMO when required thereby reducing the need for 2 units.

HRFE is still looking to improve emergency site command function and having a more robust – mobile Fire and Emergency Command Unit to attend to all HRFE “emergency scenes”, to better assist the Site Incident Commander – until then, HRFE continue to have the same limitations with the existing tractor-trailer command unit, specifically its limited maneuverability, restricted interior working space for “command staff”, inadequate communication technology, and delayed response time in getting the Command Unit to a HRFE emergency scene due to any operators must have a licence to drive a tractor trailer. HRFE plans to sell the trailer and tractor through an expression of interest call to other municipalities.

A new mobile command unit capable of supporting an integrated command structure will negate the need for a separate EMO Command Trailer. The proposed mobile command unit for HRFE will provide the necessary scalability to accomplish the needs of both HRFE and EMO. This unit will have the capability to support larger ICS events. The new mobile command unit would be an addition to the current fleet.

DISCUSSION

For the reasons mentioned above, it has been determined that one (1) Mobile Command unit be added to the current Fire Services fleet to replace the trailer (05-366TR) and tractor (04-457S) currently being used as a command unit.

Tender 16-104 for one (1) Mobile Command vehicle, was posted to the Province of Nova Scotia's Procurement website on July 21, 2016 and closed on September 6, 2016. Four (4) compliant bids were received from the following vendors:

Company Name	Price	Net HST	No. Of Units	Total (Net HST)
*Tri-Star Industries	\$712,100	\$30,521	1	\$ 742,621
MBF Industries	\$846,260	\$36,271	1	\$ 882,531
Rocky Mountain Phoenix	\$894,622	\$38,344	1	\$ 932,966
Mic Mac Fire & Safety	\$1,072,834	\$45,982	1	\$ 1,118,816

***Recommended Bidder**

As per the terms of Tender 16-104, Tri-Star Industries will be supplying one (1) 2017 M2 Freightliner chassis with custom body unit.

Delivery of the new equipment is approximately 210 days from date of purchase order.

Once the new mobile command unit has been acquired and placed in service, HRFE will have no further use for the command tractor and trailer so those units could be disposed of under procurement policies for surplus fleet. The units will first be stripped of all salvageable equipment that HRM may be able to reuse or sell at auction. Any revenue received from the sale of the units will be placed into the Fleet Vehicles & Equipment Reserve Q531.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Fleet recommends the award of this tender to Tri-Star Industries based on the qualified bid price of \$712,100 plus net HST of \$30,521 for a total of \$742,621. Project funding is available in Project No. CVJ01088 - Fire Apparatus Replacement for a total of \$742,621 (net HST included).

The budget availability has been confirmed by Finance.

Budget Summary:	Project Account No. CVJ01088 - Fire Apparatus Replacement	
	Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$2,368,442
	Less: Tender 16-104*	<u>(\$ 742,621)</u>
	Balance	\$1,625,821

*This project was estimated in the Approved 2016/17 Capital Budget at \$900,000 (Net HST included).

RISK CONSIDERATION

There is a risk that HRFE will have inadequate capabilities to support larger scale emergency events. That necessary field support capabilities for multiagency emergency events would be compromised.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Implications not identified.

ALTERNATIVES

Regional Council could elect to forgo the purchase of one (1) Mobile Command vehicle and/or not approve the transfer of unspent project budget.

ATTACHMENTS

None

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/SCfinance/index.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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