

Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Fire and Rescue

Information Report

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Ken Labonte, Assistant Chief
Date: September 13th, 2022
Subject: Fire Services – Water Shuttle Accreditation

This report is for the information of Council.

Background

Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue was successful in obtaining accreditation with the Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) – Superior Tanker Shuttle Service for personal lines of insurance.

Accredited Superior Tanker Shuttle Service is a recognized equivalency to hydrant protection. To be accredited, fire departments must commit to maintaining a high standard of organization, and practice delivering the service regularly. The fire department must be able to show through testing and documentation that it can continuously provide water supplies in excess of the minimum required for hydrant municipal-type water supplies.

The system of delivery must meet all the requirements specified for Standard Tanker Shuttle Service and must exceed the requirements in several key areas:

- a) The fire department must be able to prove through testing that the specified requirements of Superior Tanker Shuttle Service can be met.
- b) For personal lines of insurance, the fire department must be able to deliver a flow rate of not less than 950 LPM (200 IGPM) within 5 minutes of arriving at the test site with the first major piece of apparatus (wheel stop).
- c) The volume of water available for firefighting must be adequate to sustain the accredited flow rate for a duration in accordance with the Fire Underwriters Survey Water Supplies for Public Fire Protection.

The benefits of becoming accredited provide property owners with eligibility for improved property insurance rates similar to those in communities with municipal water supply systems.

While the Fire Underwriters Survey does not set property insurance rates, the organization is responsible for publishing the Canadian Fire Insurance Grading Index which is used by insurers across Canada to base insurance rates upon.

Fire Underwriters Survey is recognized by the Insurance Bureau of Canada as being the only organization authorized to publish fire insurance grades in Canada

Comments

To be recognized for Superior Tanker Water Shuttle Service, Chatham-Kent Fire and Rescue must possess adequate equipment, training, and approved water supplies.

The following information was also provided:

- a) The number of firefighters, their training and NFPA certifications. This information was obtained through our training division and provided to the Fire Underwriters Survey.
- b) The locations of the fire stations
- c) The number and type of apparatus in each station
- d) The pump capabilities and annual certification of the pumps
- e) The tank volume of each apparatus
- f) Mapping of the municipal water system
- g) Hydrant flow testing at locations throughout the municipality

Volunteer Fire Stations throughout the Municipality were divided up into four districts to work collaboratively to shuttle water via fire tanker trucks to a specified location simulating a fire response.

Consultation

In collaboration with the Fire and Rescue Training Division, the Chatham-Kent Public Utilities Commission and Fleet Services department were consulted and reviewed the contents of this report.

Financial Implications

The total project cost of \$45,000 was funded from the Capitol Projects Account 20FES010.12515.3MANAGE.

Prepared by: Ken Labonte, Assistant Chief

Reviewed by: Chris Case, Fire Chief

Consulted and confirmed the content of the consultation section of the report by:

Sean McRoberts, Assistant Chief, Chatham-Kent Fire & Rescue

Tim Sunderland, General Manager, Public Utilities Commission

Shaheer Alam, Manager, Fleet Services, DAW – Drainage, Asset, and Waste Management

Attachment:

FUS Letter of Recognition – Superior Tanker Shuttle Accreditation, Certificates of Accreditation