

Report to Council

Report Title: Municipal Fire Protection Agreement - Hanover

Prepared By: Chris Wells, Director of Fire and Emergency Services

Department: Fire

Date: February 8, 2022

Report Number: FIRE2022-01 **File Number:** C11FIRE, L04

Attachments: Amendment agreement,
Schedule "A",
Schedule "E"

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby approves Report Number FIRE2022-01 – Municipal Fire Protection Agreement – Hanover, prepared by Chris Wells, Director of Fire and Emergency Services and further authorizes a by-law coming forward to adopt the amending agreement and changes to By-law 2016-077.

Report:

Background:

In 2016 Brockton entered into a service agreement with the Town of Hanover with regards to the Hanover Fire Department providing fire protection services for an agreed upon area within Brockton. This area was defined based on several criteria including response time, population density, level of perceived hazard and probability. Based on changes in the density of population and the assessment of risk, Hanover Fire Chief Dentinger and I have identified that certain area residents would benefit from improved coverage. As a result, we have been meeting over the past few months and have proposed minor changes to the service agreement. All changes have been discussed with the respective CAO's with support for the amendments as presented.

Analysis:

I have reviewed the call volumes for the last five years and compared it to the cost associated with this agreement and have determined that the cost per call ratio is a fair and efficient use of resources which over the span of the five-year agreement has balanced out. Further, I have had discussions with Chief Dentinger and based on a review of the call, time attended, and response type he agrees.

As such the following are the proposed changes to the agreement:

- a) Schedule A Coverage area – Lake Rosalind Road 5 has a much higher density of homes on it now than when this coverage area was originally agreed upon. By adding the green portion (see drawing) to Hanover’s coverage area we will reduce the response time to an area that has a higher fire probability and a higher life safety risk in the case of a fire which benefits the rate payer. In turn we will reduce the coverage area by the red portion which has a higher risk of fire severity but a lower probability and minimal amount of life safety risk.
- b) Schedule E - We have removed speciality services of confined space. This is a technical rescue service that was offered in the past but is no longer offered by Hanover Fire and Rescue.
- c) Schedule E – The Hanover Fire Department currently maintains a water supply tanker accreditation which is recognized by many insurance companies and can result in lower rates for customers within the accredited coverage area. Wording has been added to the agreement ensuring that Brockton residents will continue to benefit from this annual accreditation.

The proposed service changes will continue to service Brockton residents well in a cost-effective manner.

If the changes outlined above are accepted by both Councils, the plan would be to work together on a joint communication to residents to clarify which department will be providing the service and reassuring residents that this change will improve response times.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance | N/A |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

The changes to this agreement will allow us to continue providing the residents of Brockton with optimum coverage and rates that are in Brockton residents best interest. It should be noted that contracting with the Town of Hanover to provide these services is significantly more cost effective than for Brockton to obtain the equipment, training and personnel to offer the speciality services in house, and there are no other adjacent municipalities offering these services.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Wells". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Chris Wells, Director of Fire and Emergency Services

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonya Watson". The signature is cursive and elegant, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer