

Meeting Date: December 18, 2023
Department: Engineering and Public Works
Report No.: EPW-2023-76
Submitted by: Jake Straus, Director of Engineering and Public Works
Approved by: Trisha McKibbin, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: Public Works Tandem Truck Purchase

RECOMMENDATION: THAT: Council receive report EPW-2023-76, and further;

THAT: Council approves the purchase of a 2024 Tandem Truck for \$425,290 plus HST from Team Truck Centres Limited, and further;

THAT: Council approve the use of \$25,290 plus HST funded from the fleet reserve.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Works department maintains a fleet of vehicles used to deliver the services of the department. The fleet includes 10 combinations of snow plow and dump trucks. Of which, 8 are tandem axles and 2 are single axle. These trucks are used for:

- Snow removal
- Sand and Salt application for winter maintenance (snow & ice control)
- Hauling bulk materials such as gravel, asphalt, sand, concrete and topsoil
- Construction projects to haul away excess material
- Assist in roadway cleanup during storm events

Below is a photo of a Tandem Truck we received in 2021:



The Fleet is regularly maintained and vehicles are replaced as part of life-cycle management strategy. The benefit of replacing the aging fleet is that it ensures greater reliability, reduces maintenance costs, increases operational efficiency and upholds our commitment to delivering a high level of service in the municipality.

The Municipality maintains and annually funds a fleet and equipment reserve fund. The annual funding contributions to the reserve are collected to cover the scheduled replacement of vehicles and equipment according to life cycle needs.

COMMENTS:

The existing 2008 tandem truck in the Public Works fleet is scheduled for replacement this year (2023), and as such, monies in the amount of \$400,000 was included in the 2023 budget.

Section 16 of the Municipality’s Purchasing Policy allows for Co-operative purchasing.

CO-OPERATIVE PURCHASING

- 1. The Municipality may participate with other government agencies or public authorities in co-operative purchasing when it is in the best interest of the Municipality.*
- 2. The decision to participate in co-operative purchasing will be made by the Purchasing Officer or Director in concurrence with the Treasurer.*

In accordance with Section 16 of the Municipality’s Purchasing Policy, Staff obtained a quotation through Sourcewell Pricing from Team Truck Centres Limited for a Tandem Truck that includes all the required features for the Public Works department.

Sourcewell Pricing, is a cooperative purchasing program that manages solicitation of bidders for government agencies. This purchasing program has special negotiated rates that municipalities can use for the purchase of equipment from specific suppliers.

Cooperative purchasing is procurement conducted by, or on behalf of, one or more Public Procurement Units. Sourcewell's analysts streamline the procurement process by developing RFPs and IFBs for national, competitive solicitations that meet or exceed local requirements. The rigorous process is continually refined to best meet the needs of participating agencies and allows municipalities to offer exceptional products from nationally acclaimed suppliers.

Sourcewell pricing saves significant Staff time in preparing a tender package. Historical tender packages for a Tandem Truck are complex; they have approximately 40 pages of specifications in which Staff needs to ensure fairness to all bidders. Staff would have to consult with the truck vendors on the updated specifications. Sourcewell pricings allows Staff to save time and money by purchasing from the ready-to-use, competitively solicited contracts. Sourcewell pricing is a common purchasing process now used by other municipalities.

Typical Tandem Truck lead times from the date of order placement to delivery for use is over a full calendar year.

CONSULTATION:

- Chief Administrative Officer
- Director of Finance
- Manager of Public Works
- Public Works Operators

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The tandem truck was budgeted in 2023 for \$400,000. The total cost is \$425,290 plus HST. The additional \$25,290 plus HST will be funded from fleet reserves.

The current fleet reserve has approximately \$1,400,000 available.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This matter is in accord with the following strategic priorities:

- **Customer Service:** The municipality offers seamless, responsive service and an exceptional experience for every customer.
- **Growth Management:** Strathroy-Caradoc will be an inclusive community where growth is managed to accommodate a range of needs and optimize municipal resources.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.