**Minute No. 542**
**Report – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – May 31, 2023**

**Item No. 6 Addition of 20 FTE Paramedic Positions to WFPS Staff Complement to Staff Two Additional 24-Hour Ambulances**

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services and adopted the following:

1. That approval be granted to add 20 FTE Paramedic positions to the permanent staff complement to staff two additional 24-hour ambulances.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

**Report – Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – May 31, 2023**

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Orlikow,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services be adopted.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On June 12, 2023, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On May 31, 2023, the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council.

# ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

**Title:** Addition of 20 FTE Paramedic Positions to WFPS Staff Complement to Staff Two Additional 24-Hour Ambulances

**Critical Path:** Standing Policy Committee on Community Services – Executive Policy Committee – Council

## AUTHORIZATION

| Author | Department Head | CFO | CAO |
|---|---|---|---|
| C. Schmidt | C. Schmidt | C. Kloepfer | M. Jack |

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Shared Health is the provincial health authority established under The Health System Governance and Accountability Act and is responsible for emergency response services for the Province of Manitoba, including the City of Winnipeg.

On May 18, 2023, the City of Winnipeg and Shared Health entered into an agreement for the provision of Emergency Medical Response and Transport Services and Community Paramedicine Services for the period May 10, 2023, to December 31, 2027, with an option to extend the agreement for another five years.

This agreement includes a volume-based increase in funding of $3 million to add two, 24-hour ambulances with staffing of 20 Full-Time Equivalents (FTEs).

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That approval be granted to add 20 FTE Paramedic positions to the permanent staff complement to staff two additional 24-hour ambulances.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

## REASON FOR THE REPORT

Council approval is required for the addition of FTE positions above the permanent staff complement.

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The addition of 20 FTE Paramedic positions will allow the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service to staff two, 24-hour ambulances in accordance with the agreement entered into on May 18, 2023, with Shared Health.

There are no financial implications as these positions are fully funded by Shared Health.

## HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The Province of Manitoba, Shared Health, Manitoba Health and Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) have all been responsible for the facilitation of emergency medical response services, inter-facility transport and community paramedicine in Manitoba since the Regional Health Authorities were created in 1997. In 2000, the WRHA contracted the City of Winnipeg to provide those services.

The agreement between The City of Winnipeg and the WRHA for Emergency Medical Response Services, Inter-facility Transport and Community Paramedicine expired March 31, 2016, and was then extended to April 2017. Administrative oversight of the contract was subsequently transferred from the WRHA to Shared Health in April 2018.

Since April 2017, the City of Winnipeg has been delivering emergency medical services on the province's behalf in the absence of a written contract.

On May 18, 2023, the City of Winnipeg and Shared Health entered into an agreement for the provision of Emergency Medical Response and Transport Services and Community Paramedicine Services for the period May 10, 2023, to December 31, 2027, with an option to extend the agreement for another five years.

This agreement includes a volume-based increase in funding of $3 million to add two, 24-hour ambulances with staffing of 20 Full-Time Equivalents. In addition, Shared Health has committed to develop a plan to hire additional staff in future years of the agreement.

## FINANCIAL IMPACT

## Financial Impact Statement

**Date:** May 26, 2023

**Project Name:**

**First Year of Program** **2023**

**Addition of 20 FTE Paramedic Positions to WFPS Staff Complement to Staff Two Additional 24-Hour Ambulances**

| | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Capital** | | | | | |
| Capital Expenditures Required | | | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| Less: Existing Budgeted Costs | | | - | - | - |
| Additional Capital Budget Required | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| **Funding Sources:** | | | | | |
| Debt - Internal | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| Debt - External | - | - | - | - | - |
| Grants (Enter Description Here) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Reserves, Equity, Surplus | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other - Enter Description Here | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total Funding | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| Total Additional Capital Budget Required | $ - | | | | |
| Total Additional Debt Required | $ - | | | | |
| **Current Expenditures/Revenues** | | | | | |
| Direct Costs | 2,400,000 | 2,448,000 | 2,496,960 | 2,546,899 | $ 2,597,837 |
| Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery | 2,400,000 | 2,448,000 | 2,496,960 | 2,546,899 | 2,597,837 |
| Net Cost/(Benefit) | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| Less: Existing Budget Amounts | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net Budget Adjustment Required | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - | $ - |

**Additional Comments:**

The cost of 20 additional paramedics is fully funded under the new contract. The costs shown in this Financial Impact Statement reflect 2023 rate estimates plus 2% for illustration. These costs will be amended in future years for actual salary increases and staff progressions as set out in collective agreements. Annual funding letters under the new contract will fully fund collective agreement increases and maintain the full cost recovery for the City of Winnipeg.

John Hall FCMA, CGMA
Financial Controller
Fire Paramedic Service

## CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:

N/A

## OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

N/A

## WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

N/A

## WINNIPEG POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

N/A

## SUBMITTED BY

Department: Fire Paramedic Service
Division: Executive
Prepared by: Christian Schmidt, Fire and Paramedic Chief
Date: May 26, 2023
File No: N/A

Attachments: N/A