



REPORT TO COUNTY COUNCIL

FROM: Nicholas Loeb, Director of Legal Services

DATE: December 6, 2023

SUBJECT: Extension of Medavie EMS Services Agreement

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT Council receive and file the report entitled “Extension of Medavie EMS Services Agreement” dated December 6, 2023 for information;

THAT Council authorize an extension of the Elgin County / Medavie EMS Elgin Ontario Incorporated agreement for Land Ambulance Services for a period of up to six (6) months, with the parties agreeing that adjustments retroactive to January 1, 2024 may occur subsequent to the completion of negotiations between the parties;

THAT Council authorize the CAO/Clerk to execute extension(s) of any ambulance base lease or land ambulance vehicle lease as between Elgin and Medavie EMS Elgin Ontario Inc. that may be required to conform to the extension of land ambulance services;


INTRODUCTION:

This report recommends that Council authorize an extension of the in-force Land Ambulance Services Agreement with Medavie EMS Elgin Ontario Incorporated (“Medavie”) for a period of up to six (6) months while the parties complete negotiations regarding a new, longer term contract. The parties each acknowledge that there may be adjustments that are required retroactive to January 1, 2024 upon a new agreement being formed.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The County of Elgin is responsible for the provision of Land Ambulance services within its geographic jurisdiction pursuant to the *Land Ambulance Act*.

Medavie has provided land ambulance services for the County since January 1, 2014. The initial agreement was for a period of three (3) years. Council authorized extensions in 2017 and 2020 such that the current agreement expires on December 31, 2023.



The parties have been engaged in productive negotiations regarding a new contract for the past several months. Without predetermining an outcome, the parties are currently confident that an agreement will be reached, but that it will require time for final negotiations past December 31, 2024.

As a result, in order to provide time for completing negotiations, administration recommends the extension of the existing contract for a period of up to six (6) months. This recommendation technically constitutes a single-source procurement in excess of \$50,000.00. The County's procurement policy is set out in By-Law No. 20-07. That by-law sets out that single-source procurement may be authorized subject to meeting one of the criteria of section 4.7(c). Those criteria include:


- iii. There is a need for compatibility with goods and/or services previously acquired or the required goods and/or services will be additional to similar goods and/or services being supplied under an existing contract (i.e. contract extension or renewal)

The extension recommended by staff to Council meets with this criterium. Land ambulance services are a mandated service delivery and Medavie is the current service delivery entity.

The extension of the Agreement will maintain the current terms and conditions and it is anticipated that upon a agreement being formed there will be adjustments retroactive to January 1, 2024. The extension is, therefore, to ensure that the responsibility, obligations and protection of the parties that form part of the current agreement continue in force until such time that the County enters into a new agreement for land ambulance services.

County administration also recommends that Council authorize the extension of any land ambulance base lease or land ambulance vehicle lease as between the County and Medavie that may be required to reflect the extension of land ambulance services. The County owns the land ambulances and leases them to Medavie for the delivery of its services. Leases entered into for new ambulances since 2021 automatically extend if the land ambulance services agreement extends. However, some of the older leases expire at the end of the term of existing land ambulance services agreement. County administration recommends that Council authorize the extension of the land ambulance vehicle leases so that the responsibility, obligations and protections of the parties remains in force and effect.

Similarly, the land ambulance bases at Edward Street, Pioneer Line, Shaw Valley and Talbot Line have a fixed termination date in accordance with existing land ambulance services agreement. County administration recommends that Council authorize the extension of these leases for the same period as the land ambulance services agreement so that the responsibilities, obligations and protection of the parties remains in force and effect.



FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Extension of the current agreement is accounted for within the 2024 budget proposed for County Council. It is anticipated that adjustments retroactive to January 1, 2024 will be necessary when the County enters into a new land ambulance agreement. The full financial analysis will be provided at the time that the new agreement is formed to account for all financial data from January 1, 2024 onward.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Serving Elgin	Growing Elgin	Investing in Elgin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring alignment of current programs and services with community need. <input type="checkbox"/> Exploring different ways of addressing community need. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engaging with our community and other stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning for and facilitating commercial, industrial, residential, and agricultural growth. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fostering a healthy environment. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhancing quality of place. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring we have the necessary tools, resources, and infrastructure to deliver programs and services now and in the future. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delivering mandated programs and services efficiently and effectively.

Additional Comments:**LOCAL MUNICIPAL PARTNER IMPACT:**

None.

COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Staff will communicate the decision of Council to Medavie.



CONCLUSION:

County administration recommends the authorization of an extension of the current land ambulance services agreement and associated leases as between Elgin County and Medavie for a period of up to six (6) months, to permit time for the County to enter into a new land ambulance service agreement.

All of which is Respectfully Submitted

Approved for Submission

Nicholas Loeb
Director of Legal Services

Don Shropshire
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

