



REQUEST FOR DECISION
SUBMITTED BY: Chantalle Newell
SUBMITTED FOR: Alain D. Muise, CPA, CAO and Council
DATE: January 29, 2026
SUBJECT: Kemptville Volunteer Fire Department Capital Funding Request

PURPOSE OF REPORT
To give Council an overview of the application and the applicable policy in order for them to make a decision on whether or not to approve the request.
BACKGROUND
Staff received an application for a Fire Services Capital Grant for the Kemptville Volunteer Fire Department to replace the 1992 pumper truck with a new pumper truck.
DISCUSSION
<p>Staff has reviewed the application in relation to the Municipal Grants and Sponsorship Policy to ensure compliance. The following items are noted for Council's information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Section 7.2. states <i>"the aim of the Fire Services Capital Grants is a program intended to provide modest level of support and assistance to fire departments within the Municipality of Argyle with the purchase of: 7.2.1 – A vehicle required by the department to deliver emergency services."</i> This application aligns with this intent, as the request is for a vehicle required to deliver emergency services.</li> <li>- Section 7.6. states <i>"The cost of borrowing may include either a formal loan from a financial institution, or the lending of internal funds towards the cost of the project, or another form of financing not listed in the policy."</i> This application indicates that funding will be obtained through MODY, which is consistent with this provision.</li> <li>- Section 7.8. states <i>"The maximum annual cost of this program (to the Municipality) shall not exceed \$50,000 annually."</i> Currently, the municipality is paying one grant in the amount of \$25,000 per year, which leaves sufficient capacity within the program to accommodate this request.</li> <li>- Section 7.9. states <i>"The grant shall now be considered as the primary source of funding for the specific project. The applicant shall detail other financial support for the project, including but not limited to local fundraising, application of an annual area rate, and/or utilization of accumulated surplus. Any application that relies solely on this grant shall be denied."</i> The application confirms multiple funding sources, including the implementation of a fire rate of \$0.05 per \$100 of assessment for Yarmouth and Argyle, generating approximately \$180,000, the use of accumulated surplus in the amount of \$320,000, and an additional funding request</li> </ul>

to MODY for \$120,000. The policy also indicates a quote should be attached, which the applicant has done.

- The policy further indicates that a quote should be attached to the application, which has been provided.

#### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The attached application requires a \$125,000 investment over 5 years. This is a heavily leveraged request, as the fire truck purchase price is much higher according to the application. The municipality is in the planning stages of a long term fire truck replacement plan that shall be led by our Fire Coordinator. The plan will most certainly seek to address the fire departments that are 100% funded by Argyle. Kemptville is a shared department, which is one of the reasons why our cost is so much lower than the actual purchase.

This investment is consistent with a long-term investment in fire protection, and the cost is shared, which makes this investment a reasonable one from a strict business and service provision perspective.

#### LEGAL/MGA AUTHORITY

Section 65 authorizes the municipality to make investments in municipal services that are budgeted or approved by Council. The investment will take place in 26-27 fiscal year, as such, if council approves, it will be included in the operations budget. The MGA delegates the delivery of fire protection services to municipalities; it is one of the core services it delivers. Finally, there is pre-established policy that defines how Argyle shall invest in these situations, and East Kempt meets the criteria of the policy. In short, we are authorized to spend money in this area.

#### RECOMMENDATION

In the opinion of staff, the application meets the policy requirements.

#### SUGGESTED MOTION

To: approve a Fire Services Capital Grant for the Kemptville Fire Department in the amount of \$25,000 per year for 5 years, beginning in 2026-2027 fiscal year, pending all other funding is confirmed and an area rate is established.

#### ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

Council may deny the request.

#### ATTACHMENTS

Application is attached.