Staff Report for Committee of the Whole Meeting

Date of Meeting: April 2, 2019
Report Number: SRCS.19.11

Department: Community Services
Division: Fire and Emergency Services

Subject: SRCS.19.11 -Non-competitive Acquisition of a High-Rise Simulation Training Prop for the Fire & Emergency Services Training Centre

Purpose:

Fire and Emergency Services is seeking Council approval to award a non-competitive acquisition for the supply, delivery, and installation of a High-Rise Simulation Training Tower Prop(s) for the Fire and Emergency Service Training Centre as approved in the 2018 Capital Budget and in accordance with the Procurement By-law 113-16.

Recommendation(s):

a) That the contract for the provision of the High-Rise Simulation Training Tower Prop(s) for the Fire and Emergency Services Training Centre as approved through the 2018 Capital Budget process, be awarded non-competitively to Pro-Safe Fire Training Systems Inc. at an estimated cost of $185,600.00 (exclusive of taxes) pursuant to Appendix "B" Part I, Section (c) of Procurement By-law 113-16;

b) That the Commissioner of Community Services be authorized to execute any necessary documentation to effect the contract

Contact Person:

Jeff Fairbarn, Training Officer (905) 780-2892

Report Approval:

Submitted by: Ilmar Simanovskis, Commissioner of Community Services

Approved by: Neil Garbe, Chief Administrative Officer

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), Town Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and Chief Administrative Officer. Details of the reports approval are attached.

Background:

Through the 2018 Capital Budget process, Council approved recommendations brought forward in a business case by Fire and Emergency Services for the purchase and installation of the High-Rise Simulation Training Prop(s) for the Fire Training Center at an estimated cost of $185,600.00 exclusive of HST.

The purpose of the High-Rise Simulation Prop(s) are to enhance safe training opportunities to meet service demands, increase Training Center revenue potential, and support the high level of skills and training required for Richmond Hill Fire and Emergency Services to meet the changing dynamics of the high-rise infrastructure within Richmond Hill.

Due to municipal growth and intensification efforts, the number of high-rise occupancies in Richmond Hill has been increasing. Fire related incidents in high-rise occupancies are challenging and complex in nature, requiring Fire Services to continually train for vertical fire response in often "awkward" or hard to reach fire situations. In recent news (locally and GTA), significant multi-storey or high-rise buildings have been subject to significant fires (re: smoking on balconies, appliance fires, combustible cladding, other smoke related deaths) that have caused concern regarding the adequacy of Fire Services responding to high-rise incidents.

Richmond Hill Fire and Emergency Services has a Training Tower that can simulate high-rise firefighting evolutions up to five storey elevations but the current burn props cannot adequately and realistically simulate visible fire and smoke conditions on these upper levels. To realistically plan, respond and execute strategies for the hazards of vertical firefighting (i.e. first on scene assessment through to hands on tactical firefighting), additional burn props (propane) are being requested to be installed on the upper levels.

With the approval of this new training prop, the Training Centre will have the ability to create variable high-rise training and rescue scenarios. Additionally, this prop will assist in the ability to maintain and enhance the current training, skills, and response required for high-rise emergencies.

The current Training Center burn props have been built and installed by Pro-Safe Fire Training Systems Inc. As all of the props work together and are controlled by the Pro-Safe system, staff are recommending the additional props also be purchased non-competitively from Pro-Safe Fire Training Systems Inc. to ensure compatibility with the existing system.

Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:

The necessary funds required for this staff report were approved in the 2018 Capital Budget.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan:

This new initiative demonstrates our commitment to providing exceptional public service to our community and aligns with the following goals of our vision "Richmond Hill, where people come together to build a community".

This specialized training prop helps build stronger connections by expanding our networks, relationships and educational opportunities with other Emergency Services partners through shared use of our Fire and Emergency Services Training Center.

This project further demonstrates efficient management of resources as the new prop offers additional training value for existing customers in a safe controlled environment and increases the potential for new customers, thereby increasing revenue potential.

Conclusion:

Council approved the funds for the High-Rise Simulation Training Prop for the Fire and Emergency Services Training Center in the 2018 Capital Budget in the estimated amount of $185,600.00, exclusive of HST.

Staff are recommending that the contract for the provision of the High-Rise Simulation Training Tower Prop for the Fire and Emergency Services Training Centre as approved through the 2018 Capital Budget process, be awarded non-competitively to Pro-Safe Fire Training Systems Inc. at an estimated cost of $185,600.00 (exclusive of taxes) pursuant to Appendix "B" Part I, Section (c) of Procurement By-law 113-16.

Attachments:

- None.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	SRCS.19.11 - Non-competitive Acquisition Fire and Emergency Services Training Centre.docx
Attachments:	- Council Report Draft Final.docx
Final Approval Date:	Mar 18, 2019

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Steve Kraft - Mar 15, 2019 - 1:57 PM

Ilmar Simanovskis - Mar 15, 2019 - 2:46 PM

Neil Garbe - Mar 18, 2019 - 9:37 AM