



REPORT NO. **EM-24-01**

TO: Mayor & Members of Council

DEPARTMENT: Fire & Emergency Services

MEETING DATE: November 7, 2024

SUBJECT: **PORT BRUCE ICE BREAKING SERVICES**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. EM-24-01 entitled “Port Bruce Icebreaking Services” be received;

AND THAT Malahide Township, as the benefiting municipality, does hereby accept the quotation submitted by Higgs & Higgs Inc. to provide Ice Breaking Services in Port Bruce from January 1 to March 31, 2025.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND:

In previous years, the early mitigation and removal of ice in the harbor area was beneficial in mitigating potential flood conditions in Port Bruce during this period.

COMMENTS & ANALYSIS:

There was only one bidder on this tender, Higgs & Higgs Inc. who tendered a bid on drag line with a 100 ft boom and a 2.0-yard bucket. Below is comparison in costs between 2024 and 2025.

PORT BRUCE ICE BREAKING SERVICES		2024	2025
Equipment Mobilization Rate: Rate to mobilize equipment under the terms and conditions as outlined in the tender documents.	Lump Sum	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Equipment Standby Rate: Rate to supply a standby operator and equipment under the terms and conditions as outlined in the tender documents.	Daily Rate	500.00/day	500.00/day
Equipment Operating Rate: Rate to supply equipment and operator as identified above in following the conditions as outlined in the tender documents.	Hourly Rate	220.00/hr.	200.00/hr.

Lighting Equipment Rate: Rate to supply all lighting required to safely perform work during night time hours under the terms and conditions as outlined in the tender documents.	Hourly Rate	No charge	No Charge
Emergency Call Out Rate: Rate to supply equipment and operator as identified above in following the conditions as outlined in the tender documents if required beyond the date limits of the tender.	Hourly Rate	290.00/hr.	290.00/hr.

The rates submitted in the tender are the same as 2024 with the exception of the hourly rate being lowered in this year's tender by \$20.00 per hour. Estimated cost is calculated by totaling stand-by rates from January 1st to March 31st, the mobilization rate, lighting and an estimated forty hours of operating. This estimation provides the basis for the budget request for the year although the actual cost may vary.

- Higgs & Higgs Inc.: Estimated Cost: \$56,000.00

The 2024 overall cost to the Township was \$46,000.00, with this total coming from standby costs and the mobilization rate, no ice breaking was required in the 2024 season. Ice Breaking is included within the Township's Emergency Management operating budget.

The equipment proposed by the contractor meets the recommendations provided to us from Catfish Creek Conservation Area (CCCA) and are the same contractors that were selected in the 2024 contract.

CCCA will still be responsible for monitoring and forecasting flood warning as they were previously. Staff will follow recommendations provided by CCCA but the responsibility to dispatch ice breaking itself will be the responsibility of the Fire Chief, Jeff Spoor, and the Roads and Construction Manager Ryan DeSutter.

It is noted that there are currently no Provincial or Federal funding grants available to the Township or CCCA to contribute funds for this yearly project. Staff will continue to explore these possibilities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

As the ice breaking equipment contract is to be in place from January 1, 2025, through March 31, 2025, sufficient funding for the proposed project/program will be included in the Draft 2025 Budget if approved by Council.

Prepared by: J. Spoor, Director of Fire & Emergency Services

Approved by: N. Dias, Chief Administrative Officer