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OUR FILE: C-09, A01, A16

February 9, 2017

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Reference: Resolution re: Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997.

Dear Premier Wynne;

At the regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole held on December 15, 2016 the attached resolution was passed and subsequently ratified by Council on January 13, 2017.

This resolution endorses and further strengthens the Township of McKellar resolution 16-384, a copy of which is attached, regarding the lack of funding opportunities for Fire Department infrastructure within the Provincial Government's Infrastructure Strategy to Move Ontario Forward.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

Cheryl Mortimer
Clerk

c.c. Hon. Marie-France Lalonde, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services
Hon. Brad Duguid, Minister of Economic Development and Growth
Norm Miller M.P.P. Parry Sound – Muskoka
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM),
The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
All Ontario municipalities

Encl
/ch



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Agenda Reference 8.c.1.

DATE: December 15, 2016

RESOLUTION NUMBER: COW-17-15/12/16

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

Whereas the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997, legislates that fire prevention, public education are a mandatory municipal responsibility and fire protection services are provided based off needs and circumstances;

And Whereas there are a total of 449 Fire Departments operating in the province comprised of 32 Full-Time Departments, 191 Composite Departments and 226 Volunteer Departments with 11,376 Full time Firefighters, 19,347 Volunteer Firefighters and 343 Part-Time Firefighters staffing these departments;

And Whereas the fire service represents a significant percentage of small, rural and northern municipalities' managed capital assets;

And Whereas the Municipal Fire Department and associated assets represent critical municipal infrastructure;

And Whereas there are currently no funding opportunities available from the Provincial or the Federal Government for the equipment, training, maintenance, operating, or capital requirements of local fire departments;

And Whereas there is continued pressure for emergency responses and increasing natural & man-made disasters in which the municipality must take a lead role;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the Council of the Township of Muskoka Lakes hereby petition the Provincial Government to recognize the municipal fire service as critical infrastructure by including funding for Fire Department infrastructure as part of the Provincial Governments Infrastructure Strategy to Move Ontario Forward;

And further that the Clerk forward a copy of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services, the Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure, Norm Miller, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and all Ontario municipalities.

RECORDED VOTE:

NAYS

YEAS

COUNCILLOR BARANIK (Deputy Mayor)
COUNCILLOR BARRICK-SPEARN
COUNCILLOR CURRIE
COUNCILLOR EDWARDS
COUNCILLOR HARDING
COUNCILLOR HAYES (Acting Deputy Mayor)
COUNCILLOR LEDGER
COUNCILLOR McTAGGART
COUNCILLOR NISHIKAWA
MAYOR FURNISS
TOTALS

MOTION DEFEATED []
MOTION CARRIED [X]

CHAIR

Township of McKellar

P.O. Box 69, McKellar, Ontario P0G 1C0

Phone: (705) 389-2842

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VIA EMAIL

November 22, 2016

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne
The Honourable Brad Duguid
The Honourable Bob Chiarelli
Norm Miller, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
All Ontario Municipalities

Please be advised that at its regular meeting held, Monday November 21, 2016 the Council of the Township of McKellar passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: 16-384

WHEREAS the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997*, legislates that fire prevention, public education and fire protection services are a mandatory municipal responsibility;

AND WHEREAS there are a total of 449 Fire Departments operating in the province comprised of 32 Full-Time Departments, 191 Composite Departments and 226 Volunteer Departments with 11,376 Full-Time Firefighters, 19,347 Volunteer Firefighters and 343 Part-Time Firefighters staffing these departments;

AND WHEREAS the fire service represents a significant percentage of small, rural and northern municipalities' managed capital assets;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Fire Department and associated assets represent critical municipal infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS there are currently no funding opportunities available from the Provincial or the Federal Government for the equipment, training, maintenance, operating or capital requirements of local fire departments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of McKellar hereby petition the Provincial Government to recognize the municipal fire service as critical infrastructure by including funding for Fire Department infrastructure as part of the Provincial Governments Infrastructure Strategy to Move Ontario Forward;

AND FURTHER that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure, Norm Miller, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) and all Ontario municipalities.

As per the above resolution, please accept this correspondence for your information and consideration.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact undersigned.

Sincerely,

Shawn Boggs
Clerk Administrator
Township of McKellar