



REPORT

To: Rural Budgets Administration Committee

Report Number: CS-RBAC-015

From: David Sturgeon, Protective Services Manager

Date: January 21, 2021

Subject: **Function 330 Fort St. John Rural Fire Draft 2021 Budget**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee recommend that the Regional Board include the draft 2021 budget for function 330 – Fort St. John Rural Fire in the 2021 Financial Plan.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The City of Fort St. John provides fire protection services in a portion of the rural areas of Electoral Area C. The service is provided under contract between the City of Fort St John and the Peace River Regional District dated from January 1, 2017 until December 31, 2021. The contracted rate, \$711,759, includes operating and capital costs with an average increase of 2% per annum.

The Area 'C' Director reviewed the Fort St. John Rural Fire budget 2021 on Wednesday, January 6.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Budget highlights:

- Requisition = \$638,934 up \$4,686 or 0.74% over 2020, this is due to the negotiated contract rates.
- Surplus Carry over to 2021 = \$12,000
- Fort St John Boundary expansion Compensation = \$88,957
- Transfer to reserves = not applicable for this service

The estimated tax rate for this service in 2021 is 1.3603 which is an increase of 7.22% over 2020. The maximum requisition as per Bylaw No. 1236, 1999-Fort St John Rural Fire Protection Local Service Establishment Amendment is \$209,500 or the product of \$2.2820/\$1000 net taxable value on improvements only.

Note that 2021 is the final year of the agreement between the PRRD and City of Fort St John that provides for financial compensation as a result of the expansion of the City of Fort St John's boundaries.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

Attachments:

1. Function 330 Fort St. John Rural Fire Draft 2021 Budget