



Staff Report

Report To: Mayor Cole and Members of South Huron Council

Meeting Date: April 18, 2017

From: Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer

Report: CAO 17.17

Subject: Bylaw 34-2015 Fees and Charges Schedule F

Recommendations:

That South Huron Council receives the report of Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer regarding By-law 34-2015 Fees and Charges Schedule F;

And that direction be provided to Staff regarding the request received by Staff seeking an exemption from By-law 34-2015.

Purpose:

Council Direction

Background and Information:

A resident of our community was involved in motor vehicle accident in fall 2016. 911 was contacted and the caller requested all three agencies to attend the scene.

In accordance with By-law 34-2015, if Fire Department vehicles are dispatched to an incident, there is a resultant Resident & Non-Resident Vehicle Incident Response Fee of \$410 per vehicle per hour.

In respect to this particular incident, the South Huron Fire Service arrived on scene before EMS and provided First Aid to the pedestrian struck and Traffic Control on Main St.

Shortly after the incident, a request was made by the driver to have the \$410 fee waived. An email sent by the individual reads as follows:

I am reaching out to you in regards to an invoice IVCOO39366 I received for Fire call October 20, 2016. I am asking that the fee for this service be waived as I was not the person who activated service by calling 911.

In my opinion there was no need for the Municipality of South Huron fire services to be activated by dispatch. The situation and circumstances did not require their services. Another driver called 911 while I was attending the pedestrian who hit my car. The pedestrian was conscious and sitting up on his own within seconds of this unfortunate accident.

There was no damage to the car and only minor injuries to the pedestrian. There is no need for an insurance claim that could affect my future insurance premiums for no reason.

The invoice does not include the name of the driver who called 911 or the name of the pedestrian who the fire service where called for. Could the Municipality provide the names of the driver and pedestrian that is the main reason for this invoice being issued? This information is relevant if you choose not to waive this fee.

The individual was advised that Staff did not have the authority to waive the fee and that a request could be made of Council to consider. This request was submitted by the individual through the complaint process and is now before Council for consideration and direction.

Should Council choose to waive the fee, it would be incumbent to review the Fees and Charges By-law to determine the validity of Schedule C and to ensure that the policy direction to staff is consistent and applied to all. The current Schedule is highlighted below:

Schedule F – Fire and Emergency Services Fees

Item	Fee	Tax
False Alarm Response Fees		
False Alarm Calls (Alarm System Malfunction)	\$500.00 (minimum – or the actual cost of manpower, whichever is greater) Note: written warning on first offence	Exempt
Responding to authorized/unauthorized control burn		
	Recovery on labour charge	Exempt
Resident & Non-Resident Vehicle Incident Response Fees		
Fire department vehicles attending the scene	\$410.00 (per hour per vehicle)	Exempt
Inspection and Miscellaneous Fees		
Fire Inspection Report (Inspections)	\$50.00 (1 hour)	HST Extra
Complaint Inspections	No charge to owner	
Copy of Fire Incident Report	\$25.00	HST Extra
Open Air Fire – Response to illegal burning	Written warning on first offence / Recovery on labour charge and ticket fine pursuant to <i>Provincial Offences Act</i>	Exempt

Link to the Strategic Objectives:

There is no link to the Strategic Plan as a result of this report.

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Staffing Implications:

There are no staffing implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Attachments:

None

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Best'.

Dan Best MPA, BA
Chief Administrative Officer