



Township of Wainfleet

"Wainfleet - find your country side!"

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release – Friday, April 8, 2022

Green Light for Wainfleet Central Fire Station

Wainfleet, ON – At a special meeting this morning, Wainfleet Council unanimously passed a motion approving the award of the required tender that will see its new Central Fire Station begin construction in the spring of 2022.

With the project being led by Raimondo + Associates Architects Inc. and managed by Urban & Environmental Management Inc., the new facility will be built on Highway 3, just west of Chambers Corners, on land purchased by the Township in 2019 for that purpose.

"Today is a great day for the Township and one that will not only increase safety in our community, but also, leave it well positioned for decades to come," said Wainfleet Mayor Kevin Gibson.

This project has been on the municipal radar for Wainfleet for some time as many municipalities, including Wainfleet, face the dual pressures of aging fire facilities and rising costs.

Wainfleet Fire Chief Morgan Alcock welcomed Council's decision. "The need to upgrade and modernize both buildings and apparatus is a natural progression for forward thinking Councils who are being responsive in the present to ensure the level of service they establish can be met both now and in the years to come."

TRP Construction General Contractors has been awarded the contract to build the new hall at a construction cost of \$5,950,000. Although final funding options for the project will need to be considered during Council's 2023 budget deliberations, Council has already initiated prudent financial steps to phase project funding through a combined use of reserves, tax levy and borrowing in order to minimize the fiscal impact of the project on Wainfleet taxpayers. When reviewing future budgets, Council will also have a further opportunity to consider applying a portion of the Township's annual infrastructure levy, initiated several years earlier, to support repayment of the Fire Hall debenture going forward.

"Today's decision is the end result of a massive, collaborative effort by staff and Council, working closely together, to achieve a solid balance between increasing

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fire safety in the Township and in keeping with our status as a smaller rural municipality,” said Wainfleet CAO, William Kolasa. “Council has well and truly done its due diligence in gathering feedback in the community and deliberating to come to the decision that they have made.”

Mayor Gibson praised his fellow Councillors for their hard work and the tremendous diversity of skills and experience they brought to the project. “It’s been a great experience to work through this process with such a strong and dedicated Council who bring so much to the table – both skills and perspectives. This, combined with the support of our excellent staff team, means we can feel secure in our decision which once fully implemented, will assure the safety of the community for decades to come.”

The new Fire Station will meet all requirements under National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards and replace the obsolete Station 1 (Winger) and Station 2 (Wainfleet Village) as the Wainfleet Fire and Emergency Services primary Headquarters.

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