



**SUBJECT: BFD-01-20 Contract for purchase of Structural Firefighting Turnout Gear**

**TO: Environment, Infrastructure & Community Services Cttee.**

**FROM: Fire Department**

Report Number: BFD-01-20

Wards Affected: Not applicable

File Numbers: 755-05

Date to Committee: June 8, 2020

Date to Council: June 22, 2020

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**Recommendation:**

Approve the award of a single source contract for Burlington Fire Department's standardized Structural Firefighting Turnout Gear with Starfield Lion for two-year term, with the option to extend the contract for three additional one-year terms; and

Authorized the Manager of Procurement Services to issue a purchase order and/or sign any associated agreements subject to the approval of the Executive Director of Legal Services with Starfield Lion; and

Authorize the Manager of Procurement Services to extend the contract for the term of the agreement subject to mutual agreement with Starfield Lion.

**PURPOSE:**

**Vision to Focus Alignment:**

- Deliver customer centric services with a focus on efficiency and technology transformation

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**Background and Discussion:**

In 2012, the Burlington Fire Department along with Procurement Services issued an RFP for Structural Firefighting Turnout Gear. The process included a significant wear-test evaluation process of several brands of structural firefighting turnout gear as part of the RFP.

The RFP evaluation resulted in a contract being awarded to PPE Solutions Inc. A further single source, multi-year contract, approved by Council in 2016 allowed for standardization of the Starfield LION Turnout Gear across the department for career firefighting staff.

Due to recent tragic events, the City's supplier, PPE Solutions, is in the process of dissolving their business, and will not be able to fulfil the remaining terms of this contract. The manufacturer of the turnout gear, Starfield Lion, has stepped in and offered the city an opportunity to deal directly with them with locked-in unit pricing. As a result, there will not be an additional budget impact. Starfield Lion has agreed to the pricing as set out in the existing contract

Protective ensembles for structural firefighting are regulated by National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) guidelines 1851, 1971, 1994, 1500, Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act Section 21 Guidance note 4-1 & 4-8, and the FEMSA Official User Information Guide. Turnout gear is sold in a matched set and **NFPA 1851** dictates that only matched sets are to be utilized from a single manufacturer. Each set of Turnout gear is certified as a unit or set and may be mixed and matched within the brand.

### **Strategy/process**

It was identified by the city's Legal department that there is no latitude in a single-source recommendation approved by Council that would allow for an immediate transfer of the supply contracts. As such it is necessary and appropriate for us to seek the consent of Council.

### **Options Considered**

A full RFP process including a significant wear-test evaluation process was considered. However, this was discounted due to two primary factors. The process would take many months to conduct before a winning bid could be identified. Due to the unexpected and time sensitive nature of this matter this is not feasible. Also, bringing together suppliers and firefighting staff as evaluators for sizing of test gear is not palatable in the current pandemic climate.

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### **Financial Matters:**

There will not be an additional budget impact. Starfield Lion has agreed to the pricing as set out in the existing contract. Estimated annual spend for the period 2020 to 2021 is approximately \$121,810.00.

**Total Financial Impact**

Term	Year	Extended Total	
First Term (2 years)	2020	\$50,800.00	Total for 2020 / 2021 \$121,810.00
	2021	\$71,010.00	
Extension Options 3 1-year terms	2022	\$121,905.00	
	2023	\$111,600.00	
	2024	\$114,920.00	

**Source of Funding**

Capital account ER0016.

**Other Resource Impacts**

Not applicable.

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**Climate Implications**

Not applicable.

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**Engagement Matters:**

City of Burlington Legal and Procurement departments.

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**Conclusion:**

Staff is recommending Council approve the award of a single source contract for Burlington Fire Departments standardized structural firefighting turnout gear with Starfield Lion for a two-year term, with the option to extend the contract for three (3) additional one-year terms

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Respectfully submitted,

Matt Poliziani

Acting Deputy Fire Chief

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**Report Approval:**

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Council. Final approval is by the City Manager.