

# City of Cold Lake

### STAFF REPORT

**Title:** Agreement - Municipal Energy Manager

Meeting Date: April 28, 2020

### **Executive Summary:**

At its' June 25, 2019 regular meeting (Resolution No. CRM20190625.1012), Council passed a motion authorizing the submission of a joint application to the Municipal Climate Action Centre's (MCCAC) Municipal Energy Manager (MEM) program, committing up to \$22,000 towards the position for a total of two (2) years.

The joint submission with the Municipal District of Bonnyville and the Village of Glendon was successful, and the MD has drafted the attached cost-sharing agreement to govern the shared funding of the position. Also attached is the job description as provided by the MD of Bonnyville.

The Cost Sharing Agreement provides that:

- o The City of Cold Lake's costs will not exceed \$11,000 per year.
- o The City of Cold Lake's responsibilities will include:
  - Providing adequate workspace, when required
  - Provide 20% of the MEM's wage associated with his or her work in the City of Cold Lake.
  - Quarterly reporting or review of the MEM's performance.
  - Ensure the MEM adheres to the City's Health and Safety program while working in the City.

The MD of Bonnyville and the Village of Glendon have received approval to continue with the program should the City of Cold Lake decide not to participate. Council should also note that the COVID-19 social distancing measures prevented AUMA from launching two energy programs. While the details of these programs should remain in camera, one of the two could easily replace the MEM effort, while also allowing for additional flexibility in terms of timing and implementation.

The ID 349 funding issue also has yet to be resolved, and has posed growing concerns for council in regards to the City's sustainability as well as the precedent a change could set for future guiding principles that would govern regional agreements.

In order for the MD of Bonnyville and the Village of Glendon to proceed with their project with full clarity, administration is recommending that council approve a motion to respectfully decline to participate in the MEM.



# City of Cold Lake

### Background:

At the January 28, 2020 regular meeting of Council, Council resolved to postpone this item to the March 10, 2020 regular meeting of Council.

At the March 10, 2020 regular meeting of Council, Council resolved to postpone this item to the April 28, 2020 regular meeting of Council.

The MCCAC's MEM program is intended to assist by having an energy manager find energy savings across municipalities' facilities and fleets. The positions will be reviewed after approximately six months. If the position is in line with the program, funding could be extended for a second and final year.

The position cannot be filled by a contractor, and must be employed by a lead municipality, in the case of a joint application. The MD of Bonnyville has taken on this role. In the attached cost-sharing agreement, the MD of Bonnyville has agreed to provide the MEM with all necessary work materials, including a cell phone, transportation and laptop.

There is funding in place for a total of 24 positions across the province.

Included in the year-one deliverables under the program are the requirements for the MEM to:

- Submit a work plan
- Evaluate the current state of energy practices and policies within the municipality
- Develop or refresh an energy management plan spanning at least 3-years
- Present the work plan and energy management plan to municipal staff and elected officials.
- Complete or initiate GHG emission reducing activities resulting in a 5% reduction in emissions, or another target based on the energy management plan's scope.
- Complete an energy audit of the highest energy-consuming municipal building, or the building with the most potential for a reduction as defined in the energy management plan, using either third part resources or internal resources.

A cursory estimate of the number of facilities that would be covered by the program showed approximately 83 facilities between the three municipalities, with about 30 being in Cold Lake, 46 in the Municipal District of Bonnyville and 8 in the Village of Glendon. In the past, Council has expressed concern with operational grants that may create an expectation of an ongoing, permanent position.

MD of Bonnyville (11,661) 43% = \$17,200



# City of Cold Lake

City of Cold Lake (14,961) 55% = \$22,000 Village of Glendon (493) 2% = \$800

Further to Councils meeting of January 28, 2020, it should be noted that the City of Cold Lake has not received an update on the I.D. 349 funding.

It is administration's advice to hold off any decisions until an outcome is reached or respectfully decline moving ahead as this was of significant concern to City Council. Furthermore, Council raised concern on the funding commitment being put forward by the Village of Glendon as it relates to the scope of the project.

#### **Alternatives:**

- Council may pass a motion requesting amendments to the draft agreement.
- Council may pass a motion authorizing the City of Cold Lake to enter into the Municipal Climate Action Centre's (MCCAC) Municipal Energy Manager (MEM) program agreement as presented;
- Council may pass a motion to respectfully decline moving ahead with the Municipal Climate Action Centre's (MCCAC) Municipal Energy Manager (MEM) program;
- Council postpone to the April 28, 2020 regular meeting of Council.

#### **Recommended Action:**

That Council pass a motion to respectfully decline moving ahead with the Municipal Climate Action Centre's (MCCAC) Municipal Energy Manager (MEM) Program.

### **Budget Implications (Yes or No):**

No

#### Submitted by:

Kevin Nagoya, Chief Administrative Officer