



Subject: Council Device Replacement

Report to: Thorold City Council

Recommendations

1. That a budget adjustment amount of \$15,000, **BE APROVED** for purchase of equipment to replace the current tablet devices used by Council; and
2. That this cost be **FUNDED** from the Municipal Development Reserve.

Key Facts

- The current devices were scheduled for replacement in 2024.
- Due to performance problems and screen clarity issues, City Council has expressed interest in replacing the current devices they use for City meetings.

Budgetary Status

Not included in Budget. Funding for this to be provided from the Municipal Development Reserve

Analysis

Due to issues with performance, reliability and screen clarity issues, Council has made a request for their current devices to be replaced with new equipment. The current tablet devices have been the subject of usage throughout COVID and various City meetings. They were scheduled for replacement in 2024

Staff have reviewed the options and recommend laptops. These replacement laptops are intended to improve functionality, reliability and maintain standardization of Council devices. The improvements will additionally cover enhanced performance, bigger touch screen size (an increase from 10 inches to 14 inches) while maintaining portability. It is recommended Council receive laptops rather than tablets, as the detachable tablet keyboards are a potential point of failure in device reliability with potential connection issues following long-term use.

Current council tablets will be kept as emergency spares in the event a Council or staff laptop is not available for meeting usage.

The replacement amount of \$15,000 for these devices is for the purchase of nine laptops (with chargers) and nine carrying cases. The City has a standardized provider for computers and laptops, which is Dell.

Impact on the Environment, Climate Change

There are no known environmental or climate change related impacts to this Report.

Alternatives Reviewed

Tablets and Laptops reviewed as above

Relationship to Strategic Plan

Device Modernization

Other Pertinent Reports

Not applicable

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