



## **Excerpt from Council Meeting Minutes – August 2, 2022**

### **41. Notice of Motion – Mayor Jackson - Mandatory Firefighter Certification**

Manager of Emergency Services/Fire Chief Wilson explained that the regulation was passed and only slightly amended. The financial burden is quite large to municipalities. The average retention of a fire fighter is 3-5 years. In order to become fully trained, it would take 3 years.

#### **R-296-2022**

It was **Moved** by J. Jackson, **Seconded** by J. Kirkland and **Carried**

**Whereas** municipal governments provide essential services to the residents and businesses in their communities;

**And whereas** the introduction of new Provincial policies and programs has an impact on municipalities;

**And whereas** municipal governments are generally supportive of efforts to modernize and enhance the volunteer and full-time fire services that serve Ontario communities;

**And whereas** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) believes in principle that the fire certification is a step in the right direction, however it has not endorsed the draft regulations regarding firefighter certification presented by the Province;

**And whereas** municipalities and AMO are concerned that the thirty-day consultation period was insufficient to fully understand the effects such regulations will have on municipal governments and their fire services;

**And whereas** Fire Chiefs have advised that the Ontario firefighter certification process will create additional training and new cost pressures on fire services;

**And whereas** the Ontario government has not provided any indication that they will offer some form of financial support to deliver this service;

**And whereas** AMO, on behalf of municipal governments, in a letter to Solicitor General Jones dated February 25, 2022, made numerous comments and requests to address the shortcomings in the draft regulations;

**Now therefore** be it hereby resolved that the Town of South Bruce Peninsula does hereby support AMO's recommendations;

**And that** the Town of South Bruce Peninsula does hereby call on the Solicitor General of Ontario to work with AMO, municipal governments and Fire Chiefs across Ontario to address the concerns raised so that municipalities can continue to offer high quality services to their communities;

**And further that** a copy of this resolution is sent to AMO, OSUM, Premier Doug Ford, MPP Rick Byers and all Ontario Municipalities.