

To: Mayor & Council

Fr: Tara Rickaby, Planning Administrator, Lori Nelson, Chair

Heritage Kenora, Warren, Fire Chief

Re: Amending of designating by-law - Fire Hall - 350 Second St. S.

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Corporation of the City of Kenora meets with Heritage Kenora, and the Emergency Services Manager, to discuss amending By-law No. 160-2008 to allow for the removal of the bell and the alarm box and bell from that by-law.

Background:

The City of Kenora has declared the fire hall at 350 Second Street South surplus to its needs. Council of the day removed the bell (at the top of the tower) and the alarm box and bell from the list of heritage values which formed part of the request for proposals for the re-development of the fire hall. This decision was made without prior consultation with the Heritage Committee (Heritage Kenora) during a review of the request for proposals. Similarly, the Fire Department was not consulted when the items were considered for designation. Heritage Kenora, by majority vote, is opposed to the removal of the heritage attributes from designation. The Fire Fighters feel strongly that the items should be in their care and have plans for display and preservation of the items.

In order to remove these items from designation, the Ontario Heritage Act requires that an amendment be proposed and that Council consults with the Municipal Heritage Committee on it. Council then makes a decision on whether or not to amend the designating by-law. If the decision is to proceed, there is a 30 day notice period (which is not waived because the City is the owner – this is to give public notice). If any objection is received within the 30 day notice period, the objection is referred to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing – public notice is also required for this step. Once the hearing is held and the Conservation Review Board's report is received and considered by Council, Council can once again decide whether or not to amend the by-law.

Budget: Operations Operating – Legal – Approximately \$1000 Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements: Per Notice By-law; notice by agenda of Property and Planning Committee and Council, Daily Miner & News, Municipal Solicitor.