



**May 24, 2013**

## **City Council Committee Report**

**TO: Mayor and Council**

**FR: Heather Kasprick, Deputy Clerk**

**RE: Shaw Partnership – Televised Council Meetings**

### **Recommendation:**

That Council of the City of Kenora authorizes the purchase of video technology equipment in the amount of \$12,538.47 that would allow for Council meetings to be televised on Shaw TV on a regular and consistent basis.

### **Background:**

Shaw approached Council with a proposal for the City to permanently install video equipment in the Council Chambers which would allow Shaw to stream in Council meetings at any time to Channel 10. The equipment would be managed by City staff and would be simple to turn on and off recording for the various meetings.

Shaw received a quote from Evolution Presentation Technologies of \$ 12,538.47 (includes HST). This quote is the equipment needed for a two camera shoot and includes 7 gooseneck microphones, one wireless microphone, a mixer, remote control, scaler and a 23" screen for viewing display.

Our IT department has been working with Shaw technical staff and they have confirmed that Shaw will take care of installing and terminating their own fiber services to City Hall that will be used to broadcast the Council meetings, and potentially other Shaw broadcasts in the area, such as KBI. This service will be provided at no charge to the City.

Our IT staff would like to try to make use of the existing microphone system in Council Chambers, which means a savings of approximately \$2,600 off the quote provided by Evolution. All of the items required for purchase have been sourced by both Shaw and our IT department for the best pricing. The only unknown is whether or not the existing microphone system will in fact provide the audio coverage we need, however, we have nothing to lose by trying it in the event that it does work. If we find it to be inadequate, we will add the equipment into the requirements, and if we do not require it the savings will be there. This cannot be confirmed until all the other factors are in place. For simplicity of this request, the total amount has been included, which would be the upset cost and should the existing microphones work, this amount would be less on the total cost.

Once the equipment and lines are installed, we will have a remote control pad that we can turn on/off to "go live" on the air. Meetings will have to be scheduled with Shaw in advance so that they can flip channel 10 over to your feed at the right times.

This is a joint partnership with Shaw and they are also investing significant dollars into this project which will give the public better access to Council meetings and information.

**Budget:**

The \$12,538.47 could be taken from the current 2013 Computer Systems budget.

**Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:** No bylaw amendment required, within current operating budget.