STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL   **Report No: FD-2021-10**

September 27, 2021

From: Matthew Roy – Fire Chief

RE: Open Air Burn By-Law 36-2021

_____

Recommended Motion:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Glengarry adopt the new Open Air Burn Bylaw 36-2021: and

THAT By-law 36-2021 read a first, second, third time and enacted in Open Council this 27th day of September, 2021; and

THAT by-law 48-2019 be rescinded.

Background / Analysis:

The purpose of the open-air burn by-law is to institute requirements to be taken with open air fires, including establishing the times during which open air fires may be set. Requirements and restrictions are established to prevent the potential risk of spreading of fires including issuance of total fire bans. It also outlines the importance for the health, safety and wellbeing of persons and property.

Since the adoption of by-law 48-2019 the fire department conducted an on-going review of the effectiveness, restrictions and overall purpose of the by-law. Overall, the department's review indicated a reduced number of incidents, and overall compliance from residents. The Glengarry Federation of Agriculture (GFA), the Fire Chief and Chief Administrative Officer met the middle of May 2021 to discuss the Open-Air Fire By-law. The GFA presented many points of discussion, for and against the current by-law, as well as offered suggestions for improvement.

In the fall of 2020, Council opted to extend the Agricultural burn season to October 15th from the November 1st timeline of the by-law. During this period the fire department issued numerous permits and resulted in no complaints or incidents.

The fire department is proposing a new open air burn law, whereas section 5.3 of the by-law will read "Burning shall not be permitted between June 1st and October 15th".

Alternatives:

Financial Implications:

No financial implications

Attachments & Relevant Legislation:

By-Law 36-2021

Others Consulted:

Sarah Huskinson – CAO/Clerk

_____
Reviewed and Approved by:
Sarah Huskinson, CAO/Clerk