2027 Budget Information Paper

Name of Department *

Public Works

Budget *

- [x] Capital (included in capital Forecast, over $5,000)
- [ ] Maintenance (On existing items)
- [ ] New (new item not replacing an existing item)
- [ ] Operating (not part of Capital Forecast)
- [x] Replacement (replacing an existing item in it's entirety)
- [ ] Refurbish (repair to extend the life of the item)

Please enter a date *

November 4, 2026

Name: *

Edward Hilton, Economic Development Officer

Account # *

10-06-0600-5560

Account Name *

Capital Equipment

Category *

Capital- Equipment

Subject: *

Public Works Radio Upgrades
(Modernization and DMR Integration)

Recommendation: *

To approve a 2027 Capital Budget allocation of $20,000 for Public Works radio modernization and Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) integration. The project will replace aging analog radio equipment and position the Public Works Department to operate within the Township's evolving municipal communications network.

Background: *

The Township has undertaken several communications infrastructure improvements over the past two years, including emergency communications upgrades funded through the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant (CEPG) and the approved installation of a second VHF/DMR-capable repeater at Fire Station 1 (Woodview). As the Township continues to modernize its radio communications network, staff have reviewed the existing Public Works radio fleet to assess compatibility with current and future DMR technologies.

This review identified several older analog radios which are unable to support DMR operation and future network expansion technologies such as IP Site Connect. The proposed project represents the next phase of the Township's communications modernization strategy and will improve interoperability between Public Works, Fire Services, Emergency Management, and other municipal operations during both routine operations and emergency events.

Analysis: *

The Public Works Department currently operates a mixed fleet of radio equipment consisting of both analog and DMR-capable radios. While some radios are capable of supporting future DMR applications, several radios are older analog-only units that have reached the end of their useful lifecycle and cannot participate in a modern digital radio network. Staff estimate that approximately nine (9) radios will require replacement or upgrading to support future DMR and IP Site Connect integration. This project is intended to complement recent communications investments, including the Woodview VHF/DMR repeater project, and supports the Township's longer-term objective of building a more resilient and interoperable communications system.

Financial Implications:

Dollar Amount of Item *

20,000

How does it affect your budget *

Increase in Expenses Over Previous Year Budget for this item

How will it be funded? *

OMPF

Details if Other: