

Clause 17 in Report No. 14 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on September 24, 2015

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Teranet Subscription - 2016-2025

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report dated August 25, 2015 from the Regional Solicitor:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Council authorize the continuing subscription to the Teranet Inc. land registration system of up to ten (10) years, terminating on December 31, 2025.
2. The Regional Solicitor be authorized to execute any required documentation in connection with this service.

2. Purpose

This report seeks Council approval to continue the arrangement to access the Teraview Inc. land registration system until December 31, 2025 as Teranet, through agreement with the Province of Ontario, is the only provider of electronic land registry service. Council approval is required under the Purchasing Bylaw because this is a direct purchase as there is only one provider. In addition, the purchase of service arrangement will continue for a term exceeding five (5) years. Approval is required to continue using the service beyond December 31, 2015.

3. Background

Teranet is the sole provider of land information on behalf of the Province of Ontario

Teranet is the international leader in electronic land registration and is the exclusive provider of property search and registration in Ontario. The Electronic Land Registration System is the means by which ownership of real property and interests on title are searched, recorded and transferred by the Province. Municipalities across Ontario have agreements with Teranet to provide property information. In 2010, the Province of Ontario extended its exclusive agreement with Teranet by 50 years which means that Teranet will be a sole source provider of electronic land registration and searching until December 31, 2067.

Legal Services staff use Teranet for all property related inquiries

Teraview (a Teranet software module) is used by Legal Services Branch staff in performing property searches, completing registrations and carrying out searches for liens against property. A one-time license fee is paid to Teranet Inc. for each user registered to access the system followed by pay per use fees incurred by each registered user.

Current subscription with Teranet expires December 2015

The current subscription was authorized effective January 1, 2011 and has been extended for four (4) additional one (1) year terms authorized by the Chief Administrative Officer under the former Purchasing Bylaw.

4. Analysis and Options

Currently, Teranet is the sole provider of land information on behalf of the Province of Ontario under an agreement with the Province of Ontario which expires in 2067. At this time, there is no alternate provider and there has been no indication to date that the service will be open to competitive procurement. If there is an opportunity in the future to consider another vendor, Legal Services will do so and report back to Council at that time. In the interim, it is recommended that the Regional Solicitor be authorized to approve the continuation of the subscription each year.

Link to key Council-approved plans

The agreement with Teranet Inc. supports the Region's Strategic Plan in the priority area of Good Government as it provides ongoing access to reliable, property related information for Regional staff.

5. Financial Implications

Teranet is a pay per use system and therefore the cost associated with the contract may vary. Staff estimate the annual expenditures would be approximately \$60,000. The total contract value, based on this projection, would be \$600,000. Funds are budgeted annually for expenditures related to the use of this system. The Region has no contractual obligation to Teranet and will be free to switch to an alternative service provider through a competitive procurement process, if other service providers enter the market.

6. Local Municipal Impact

There is no local municipal impact.

7. Conclusion

Teranet is the only entity that currently provides property related information to municipalities within the Province of Ontario. As such, it is requested that Council authorize the continuation of the subscription to the Teranet Inc. land registration system from 2016 through 2025.

For more information on this report, please contact Julie Grellette at ext.71437.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report. August 25, 2015

Attachments

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Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request