

Car dealer makes error on tender

BY PATRICK CASEY
Staff Writer

York Region council will decide next week whether to ignore a tender for 13 light-duty vehicles from an Aurora car dealership after listening to a heartfelt plea from the firm's fleet manager.

On Thursday, the region's transportation and works committee was prepared to award a \$348,649.40 tender to Aurora's Highland Chev-Olds Cadillac Ltd. for the trucks and vans until Ian Wright asked members to set his

company bid aside because it contained errors.

Wright, who prepared the bid, said his numbers failed to account for automatic transmissions in the vehicles, which would have added another \$10,000 plus taxes to the final tally. The additional costs would have bumped Highland down to second place among the 12 bidders, leaving the Giles Chevrolet Oldsmobile firm with the winning bid of \$359,464.70.

"I am asking you, in all sincerity, to reconsider this tender. I am asking for special consideration

under this particular circumstance," said Wright, visibly shaken. "Highland Chev-Olds is not in a position to lose \$10,000 in any given situation."

With aging vehicles throughout the transportation and works department, the region has budgeted nearly \$550,000 for 20 new vehicles this year.

Following a closed door discussion, regional chairperson Bill Fisch said staff will discuss the situation with officials from Highland Chev-Olds and Giles Chevrolet Oldsmobile before

regional councillors decide what direction to take at a council meeting Thursday morning.

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