

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

VILLAGE OF KINDERHOOK FIRE APPARATUS ACQUISITION PROPOSAL

NEED

1. Why now to purchase a new truck?

Both current trucks are in the 18 to 15 year old range. Most trucks of that era have an average replacement life of 20-25 years. We have traditionally replaced an engine every 10 years. Our cycle was thrown off in 2008 when a tree fell on one of our trucks during a call and totaled it. We feel that the time is right to get back on the 10 years cycle by selling one truck upon the delivery of the new truck and retaining the other truck a little longer as we would typically do.

2. What makes the new truck better than the engine it would replace?

Fire apparatus standards and firefighting SOPs (standard operating procedures) are changing rapidly and we are aiming to stay ahead of the requirements update curve. NFPA (National Fire Protection Agency) and other industry standards have mandated additional safety features that need to be incorporated into new fire apparatus. These include; better braking, full cab air bags, cleaner emission controls and more carrying capacity are some important examples. These additions make today's fire trucks better than their predecessors. The safety of our fire fighters is paramount - a new fire truck will provide the best safety protection for them available today.

3. Why is the proposed cost of this Fire Truck \$780,000?

Some of the safety items mentioned in question 2 above are the reason that fire apparatus costs are substantially more today. Also, cost of materials to build the new trucks along with the associated labor costs have raised significantly since our last purchase. The Fire Department and the Village of Kinderhook leadership feel strongly that this investment in a new truck has the best safety and technology available today and is a prudent and cost effective way to add value and improve on services rendered. Taxpayers should note that Pierce is an industry leader in fire truck apparatus manufacturing. Our current Fire Trucks are Pierce Fire Trucks and they are of the highest quality with a proven track record.

4. Explain the rationale behind the proposed type of truck ?

This apparatus is a rescue pumper. A rescue pumper combines all the services of a fire engine with the added ability to provide rescue services. Rescue services include responding to auto accidents that may need the jaws-of-life and quick auto fire suppression. Basically, this new truck would be the first piece of

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equipment sent out of the station for all of the calls that we currently respond to. It will help us to improve on life safety, incident stabilization and property conservation/protection with a single truck. Today for many call outs we need to dispatch both of our older trucks to be at a lesser state of readiness to respond.

5. What is the current status of this proposal?

The Village Mayor and Trustees and the Village Attorney are carefully evaluating this proposal. Analyses of budget, financing and steps required to complete this acquisition are underway.

6. What actions has the Village Leadership taken to evaluate and possibly reduce the cost of this proposed acquisition?

The Village of Kinderhook Board received a report and/or met with the Fire Department Acquisition Committee staff at several Village Board Meetings in 2021 and in January 2022 and we conducted several dedicated special meetings to clarify and prepare for a decision on the subject proposal, (see the minutes of these meetings as posted on line). In addition, alternative financing to what was proposed by HGAC was analyzed so as to determine what the lowest and most cost effective approach to paying for this new fire truck might be attained.

7. What are the plans for the fire engine that would be replaced?

The Village of Kinderhook following the delivery of the new fire truck would try to sell one of the older fire engines outright. If that effort yields no results/buyers, a fire truck broker would be used to sell one of the older trucks. The proceeds from the sale could either reduce the financing on the new truck acquisition, could be used for the purchase of special purpose apparatus and/or be held in reserve for the acquisition/replacement of the other old truck at some future date.

8. How much would the purchase of the new fire truck raise my Village taxes?

It is not anticipated that there will be a tax increase with regards to this specific acquisition. The funding of this acquisition will be managed over an extended period of time (most probably 15 years) at the lowest interest rate attainable and as such will allow us to stay within budgeted funding.

9. Does the proposed new fire truck require any special storage considerations?

No. This new truck would fit in our existing third bay at the firehouse.

10. Does this fire truck require any special services compared to the older trucks?

No. An annual service would be performed just like we currently do with the older fire trucks. Just like any vehicle, a newer truck will initially not need as much service/repairs and for a period of time certain items will be under

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warrantee, (see question 11 below). However, if something breaks it will need to be fixed to get the truck back in service. We use Firematic for our fire truck services on all of our Pierce trucks.

11. What are the warrantees for this new fire truck?

The NYS OFD (New York State Office of Fire Prevention) Specifications call for the following warranties:

- The apparatus shall be warranted to be free from mechanical defects in workmanship for a period of two (2) years or 30,000 miles whichever comes first. The apparatus shall be covered for parts and labor costs associated with repairs for two (2) years or 30,000 miles whichever comes first.
- Five (5) year or 100,000 miles on Diesel Engine
- Life-time warranty on the frame
- Seven (7) year warranty on paint
- Ten (10) year body structural warranty
- Ten (10) year cab structural warranty
- Manufacturer Warrantees on all major components

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