

Board of Fire Commissioners

Greenfield Fire District
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March 3, 2009 Special Meeting

A special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by Acting Chairman B. Bishop at 7:02 PM.

Present were: Commissioners B. Bishop, Robarge, Spackmann, Waite, Secretary Petkus, Treasurer J. Bishop and various other members of the department and residents.

Commissioner B. Bishop explained that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss/propose and possibly pass a proposal to go out to bid for an aerial device. A copy of a bid was sent to him for a custom 2008 aerial platform truck that included the specifications; apparently KME has a demo Predator chassis with a 102 foot rear mount platform. It is the recommendation of the truck committee that met on Sunday to move forward with the possible purchase of this vehicle if it is able to be acquired. It would fall under option 2 of the 3 options.

A recap of the options given by EVR is as follows:

Option 1: Rebuild the current ladder on a new chassis; cost of approx. \$650-750,000.00;
Option 2: Purchase used aerial device, built after 1998; cost of approx. \$300-425,000.00;
Option 3: Purchase a new aerial device; cost of approx \$980,000.00 - \$1.1 million.

Commissioner B. Bishop noted that there has not been any investigation done on their part as to the actual cost of doing the rebuild or anything else; those are the estimates of the truck consultant. He then asked if there were any questions:

George Habig, resident, noted a couple of years ago when you tried to get the aerial ladder at roughly 1.2 million for a brand new one; does this demo have everything on it that they would need versus buying a new one where you specify that you get everything that you want. Commissioner B. Bishop noted that to his knowledge there isn't going to be anything that needs to be added on or reconfigured on this truck, and asked Captain Bullard if he was correct on this assumption. Captain Bullard noted there were a few things they asked for as options, and proceeded to read through the list as follows:

- 1) Mounting of all equipment supplied with the apparatus and loose equipment supplied by the Greenfield Fire District.
- 2) Mount and supply a Bullard Thermal Imaging Camera.
- 3) Mount and supply a Scott Thermal Imaging Camera.
- 4) Ziebart undercoat the entire underside of the apparatus.
- 5) Addition of a 1 ½" trash line to the front bumper.
- 6) Addition of a tray to the right side pump panel for up to 25' of 5" supply line.
- 7) Addition of a Federal Q2B mechanical siren with brake to the front bumper.
- 8) Replace the existing electronic siren with a Carson SA-441M siren and two 100 watt speakers.

- 9) Addition of a class "A" foam system to supply two 1 ½" lines.
- 10) Addition of a class "A" foam system to supply the aerial device
- 11) Addition of a min. 20 gallon foam tank.
- 12) Addition of six (6) Streamlite Vulcan handlights with chargers. Mounted per dept. request
- 13) Addition of a six (6) place map book holder.
- 14) Addition of two (2) extra 12 volts cigarette outlets in cab.
- 15) Addition of two (2) 110 volts shoreline duplex receptacles in the cab.
- 16) Addition of an EMS compartment between the rear seats in the cab.
- 17) Lettering to match existing Maple Avenue apparatus. Gold leaf mylar lettering.
- 18) Addition of one (1) compartment on each side of the cab in the lower rear corners for storage of at least two (2) spare 45 min. SCBA bottles.
- 19) Supply and mounted one additional 28' or 35' two section ground ladder. Mounting location to be determined.
- 20) Change all twist lock plugs to standard duplex.
- 21) Addition of red and yellow striped chevron to the entire rear of the apparatus.
- 22) Addition of red and yellow chevron to the front bumper of the apparatus.
- 23) Allowance for trade-in of a 1989 100' rear mount LTI ladder tower. Truck can be viewed at the Maple Avenue Fire Station.
- 24) Addition of pull out tool racks in both front compartments adjacent to the pump panel.
- 25) Addition of two (2) roll-out trays in compartments to be determined.
- 26) Addition of four (4) adjustable shelves in compartments to be determined.
- 27) Addition of a second Hanney cord reel to match the unit in the specifications, compartment location to be determined.
- 28) Addition of a compartment on top of the body compartments for a stokes basket supplied by the Fire Co.
- 29) Addition of a compartment on top of the body compartments for a Little Giant ladder supplied by the Fire Co.

Captain Bullard noted the options are to see what they come in at; some stuff on there is just wish list type stuff. Commissioner Robarge asked what the truck comes in at regarding suspension. Captain Bullard explained the rear end is 58,000 air ride suspension, the front end is 22,500 front suspension. Captain Bullard also noted he has seen the truck and is impressed with it; it is not perfect for what they want, but then they would have to sit and spend extra time to spec out a truck.

Mr. Habig asked what the mileage is on it; Captain Bullard noted it was 14,000. He also asked if they are going down the same road with this truck in reference to purchasing the current aerial used. Commissioner Spackmann explained that when they bought the aerial, it was already 10 years old; this is just a year old and has never fought a fire. He further explained that a demo truck is nothing more than a show piece.

Mr. Habig also noted that he raised a concern at the budget meeting about taking money out of the pension money to pay for other items like this. Why wasn't that money taken out of this big fund they have right now, about \$800,000.00 in it right now, why didn't you take the money out of the reserve to do that stuff for the pension, where you used the money out of the pension to pay for something instead of giving it back to the taxpayers? Commissioner B. Bishop explained that you cannot take money out of the Equipment Reserve to pay for other things; once it is in the fund it can only be used for equipment, which is why you couldn't take that money out to put toward the pension plan or anything else. Commissioner Spackmann explained that they talked about it at the budget meeting and he thought Mr. Habig was

getting held up on verbiage; no one took money out of a specific account and put it in a different account, that was just conversation to help illustrate what happened. Commissioner Spackmann further explained that the annual amount needed to put into the LOSAP plan was decreased based upon rate of return of about 6%, which was higher than originally anticipated for the past five years, as well as having a lot of people who didn't qualify for the plan. There wasn't a big account here with all this money in it, to just take money out and put it elsewhere, but rather instead of charging that amount to put in that account, the same amount was charged for taxes, but the money was allocated elsewhere, which at the time Commissioner B. Bishop explained that was to cover rising expenses and costs of various things in the budget. Things were just budgeted differently.

A/C Ellsworth asked what the price of the truck is compared to the other options? Commissioner Spackmann noted the anticipated cost of this truck is \$750,000.00. If you were to spec this truck out, it would probably cost another \$80-100,000.00 more.

Mr. Habig asked if they get this demo, are they going to get rid of the old one? Captain Bullard had a conversation today with a gentleman who had been interested in their truck, so yes he believes there is a market out there for it. He also noted that the general consensus is that a demo truck has all the bugs worked out of it, so it does not need to go back and forth to the dealer. The new warranty is also included.

Commissioner Robarge read the section of the truck consultant report regarding the lack of a determined need to expand ladder service to any of the other 3 fire companies. He further read that the aerial device that is placed in service at Maple Avenue needs to be able to operate and function in other areas of the fire district, noting that the present 293 is too large to be effectively utilized at most residential fires. Commissioner Robarge asked where it left the rest of the district. Captain Bullard noted that they talked about it quite a bit at the meeting on Sunday and they felt it would be as maneuverable, as good as 291 and 273, from their calculations he did regarding wheel base turning radius. They are going to try to start to call the truck more and get it into places whether they think they can or can't. Commissioner B. Bishop explained that one of things he has mentioned is to make that a training issue rather than do that during calls, as that is not really the time to experiment. Commissioner Spackmann also noted that it should be the automatic mutual aid truck out of the Avenue and that protocol was also discussed.

The Chief was asked about the need for a stick. The Chief explained that they kicked that around, and Gar was thinking of going for something used; he is all for it that is what they want to do.

A/C Ellsworth added that they need to call the aerial more often and if it can't get in then they need to understand that they are coming in as a ladder company and they are going to be doing the laddering.

Commissioner Robarge asked what they thought of a district ladder team and get a couple of people from each company to train, sort of like the jaws team. He would like to see it made available to all firefighters in the district if they want to be on the ladder team, especially during the day when there are not a lot of people around. Chief McConkey note that the guys up here don't have the time to go down there and actually train and run the truck, but yes they do need more experience up in the bucket. Commissioner B. Bishop said there might be some who do want to, especially the daytime people. Brief discussion continued.

RESOLUTION #115 TO ADVERTISE A BID FOR A 102 FOOT AERIAL PLATFORM TRUCK, WITH BID OPENING TO BE CONDUCTED AT THE MARCH 11, 2009 COMMISSIONERS MEETING.

MOTION: Spackmann

SECOND: Waite

RESOLVED to advertise a bid for a 102 foot aerial platform truck, with bid opening to be conducted at the March 11, 2009 Commissioners Meeting.

VOTE: All in favor, motion carried.

A/C Lant asked about the warranty on the truck, specifically the mechanical part. Captain Bullard to ask about service plans as well.

Secretary Petkus asked if there was a request for the specs to be sent via email, did she have permission to forward the specs by email. The Commissioners gave permission.

A/C Lant asked about his antenna and pagers; Commissioner Waite noted she was working on the pagers, there is a programming issue Jill was working on, the antenna was ordered.

Motion made by Commissioner Robarge with a second from Commissioner Waite, to dispense wit the reading of the minutes. Motion made by Commissioner Waite, with a second from Commissioner Robarge to adjourn.

Meeting ended at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Petkus
District Secretary