



City of Muscatine



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

DATE: 1-6-22

City Council

STAFF

Mike Hartman – Assistant Fire Chief

Jerry Ewers – Fire Chief

SUBJECT

Request to issue purchase order for a 2021 Demonstration (demo) ambulance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Presented for City Council's consideration is a request to approve the issuance of a purchase order in the amount of \$209,313.15 to Feld Fire for the purchase of a 2021 Demonstration (demo) ambulance. There was \$ 160,000 budgeted in the ambulance operations budget to refurbish one of the current ambulances. Due to supply chain issues and long lead times for ordering new ambulances it is recommended the city purchase a "demo" ambulance that is currently available. With the increased cost of the "demo" vehicle, it is proposed that this purchase be funded from the May 2022 bond issue.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The recommendation is to purchase a demo ambulance instead of remounting an ambulance due to supply chain issues. After lengthy discussions with the City Administrator, Finance Director, and Fire Chief, the consensus of the group was to recommend the purchase of the demo since we can get it now versus having to wait up to two years for an ambulance, which would have a severe impact on our current fleet maintenance.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

This fiscal year, \$160,000 was budgeted for the remounting of a 2012 ambulance box onto a new chassis. Specifications were prepared and released, but no bids were received. When potential vendors were questioned they stated that the supply chain issues and computer chips were impacting their ability to bid and deliver the chassis in a timely manner. The specifications were released a second time, with two bids that were returned. The lowest bid was \$178,000 due to cost increases, but the vendor refused to give a delivery date due to supply chain issues. Presently the industry is seeing chassis delivery around 18 – 24 months from order. The ambulance that was planned for a remount presently has 260,000 miles on it and would be well over 300,000 miles before a remount could begin. Also, we are still waiting on delivery of two ambulances that were ordered in FY 20/21 and FY 21/22.

Given these issues, other options were researched. A demo unit was found that can be delivered within one month. This unit is not exactly like our present ambulances, but given the condition of the present ambulances and the extended timeline for any remounting delivery this is what will serve the community the best. Additionally, the cost between a remount and a new purchase has narrowed since our first remount in the mid-2000s.

Current Fleet Overview:

S351	2018 Ambulance	44,883 miles
S352	2016 Ambulance	183,000 miles (plan to replace in FY 23/24)
S353	2011 Remount Ambulance (2000 box)	272,623 miles (replacement ordered FY 20/21) Still waiting on delivery
S354	2014 Remount Ambulance (2004 box)	257,555 miles (replacement ordered FY 21/22) Still waiting on delivery
S355	2012 Ambulance	261,525 miles (demo would replace this now)
S356	2019 Basic Life Support Transit Ambulance	36,876 miles

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACT

The remount budgeted amount was \$160,000.00. The demo unit is priced at \$209,313.15. If the demo ambulance was purchased from the Ambulance fund, it would be \$49,313.15 over the budgeted amount. After review by the City Administrator, Finance Director, and Fire Staff, it is recommended that the purchase of the demo ambulance for \$ 209,313.15 be funded from the May 2022 bond issue.

VENDOR BID LIST FOR REMOUNT

- Feld Fire \$ 179,000
- Foster Coach \$ 178,000

VENDOR LIST FOR AVAILABLE DEMO AMBULANCE

- Feld Fire \$209,313.15