



# TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, **including back up information**, 8 days prior to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

## MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: March 4, 2021  
Submitted by: Fire Chief Matthew Duke  
Department: Fire  
Speakers: Matthew Duke

Date of Meeting: March 11, 2021  
Time Required: 20 minutes  
Background Info. Supplied: Yes:  No:

## CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition/Resignation/Retirement:	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Public Hearing:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business:	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Business:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nonpublic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

## TITLE OF ITEM

Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) Withdrawal Request for Gas Monitoring Equipment for the Merrimack Fire Department.

## DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

The Town Council to consider Merrimack Fire Rescue's request to withdrawal and expend \$24,000 from the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for the purchase of new and/or replacement gas monitoring equipment.

## REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA:	Warrant Article:	_____
Charter Article:	Town Meeting:	_____
Other:	N/A	

## EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Requirements:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easel:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Meeting:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Seating:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptop:	<input type="checkbox"/>	None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:	<u>Matthew Duke</u>	Address	<u>432 DW Highway</u>
Phone Number	<u>424-3690</u>	Email Address	<u>mduke@merrimacknh.gov</u>

## APPROVAL



## MERRIMACK FIRE RESCUE

432 Daniel Webster Highway  
Merrimack New Hampshire 03054  
603.424.3690 ♣ Fax 603.424.0603

**Fire Chief**  
Matthew J. Duke

**Assistant Fire Chief**  
Richard N. Harris

**Assistant Fire Chief**  
Shawn P. Brechtel

### MEMORANDUM

DATE: 04 March 2021  
TO: Town Council  
FROM: Matthew Duke; Fire Chief  
CC: Eileen Cabanel; Town Manager  
SUBJECT: Capital Reserve Expenditure

The Fire Department has \$24,000 in capital reserve funds for the 2020-21 budget year for the purchase of new and/or replacement gas monitoring equipment. We are requesting at this time to expend a portion of those funds.

Gas monitoring equipment is used at a wide variety of incidents to detect, analyze and quantify dangerous gases or vapors that may be present. The meters we use are highly specialized and sensitive, able to detect some gases in concentrations as low as a few parts per million. The gases that we are able to monitor and positively identify include; carbon monoxide, hydrogen sulfide, oxygen, chlorine, hydrogen cyanide and ammonia. We can also detect the presence and concentration of a wide variety of flammable gases.

The Fire Department uses gas monitoring equipment regularly at incident types including; carbon monoxide alarms, odor investigations, gas leaks, chemical spills or leaks, building fires, hazardous materials incidents and the like. Although the science behind how this monitoring equipment operates and what the various readings mean is complex, the purpose of the equipment is extremely simple; to protect the safety and health of the public and our personnel.

Having proper, modern gas monitoring equipment is vital to the health and safety of our residents and our firefighters. Many of the gases for which we monitor, such as carbon monoxide, are colorless, odorless and tasteless. Others, like hydrogen cyanide, can be present in lethal amounts before it can be detected by the senses. Other substances, such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), have cumulative carcinogenic effects. The need for the Fire Department to accurately detect and measure flammable and combustible gases and vapors requires no explanation.

The purchase we are proposing today will update and expand our gas monitoring capabilities. We will be replacing aging equipment that is reaching the end of its service life. All of our fire apparatus will be equipped with advanced gas monitoring abilities. All of our "first in" medical bags will be equipped with a small carbon monoxide monitor that is active at all times to quickly detect carbon monoxide at any EMS call. Additionally we will be expanding our monitoring capabilities by adding new chlorine, ammonia and hydrogen cyanide monitors. Finally we are updating the support equipment such as chargers and calibration gases and equipment to ensure all our monitoring equipment is always ready for use.

Description	Quantity	Cost	Total
MultiRAE Lite 4 gas/PID meter	3	\$ 2,038.00	\$ 6,114.00
QRAE3 4 gas meter	2	\$ 848.00	\$ 1,696.00
ToxiRAE III meters	5	\$ 235.00	\$ 1,175.00
BW Solo HCN (hydrogen cyanide)	2	\$ 414.00	\$ 828.00
BW Solo Cl <sub>2</sub> (chlorine)	2	\$ 414.00	\$ 828.00
BW Solo NH <sub>3</sub> (ammonia)	2	\$ 502.00	\$ 1,004.00
Calibration gases (various)	8	\$ 320.00	\$ 2,560.00
Calibration gas regulators	2	\$ 135.00	\$ 270.00
Charging bases and accessories	4	\$ 344.00	\$ 1,376.00
Carry cases	2	\$ 118.00	\$ 236.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 16,087.00</b>