



# 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: August 12, 2014  
Submitted by: Finance Director Paul T. Micali  
Department: Finance  
Speakers:

Date of Meeting: August 21, 2014  
Time Required: 10 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

Sale of Fire Truck

## DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

The Town Council to consider the proposed sale of Merrimack Fire and Rescue's 1994 3D Paramount International Pumper to the Fitzwilliam Fire Department for \$25,000.

## 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:	<b>Paul Micali</b>	Address	<b>8 Baboosic Lake Road</b>
Phone Number	<b>424-7075</b>	Email Address	<b>pmicali@merrimacknh.gov</b>

## APPROVAL

Town Manager: Yes  No:  Chair/Vice Chair: Yes  No:

Hold for Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Memo



TO: Town Council  
ATTN: Town Manager Eileen Cabanel  
FROM: Finance Director Paul T. Micali  
DATE: August 12, 2014

RE: **Sale of Fire Truck**

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In an effort to reduce the number of fire apparatus, the Fire Department began to review the total number of pumper trucks they had in conjunction with the purchase of the new KME pumper truck as part of the Council request from May 23, 2013 Council meeting (see attached minutes) The fire department felt that they could potentially reduce the number of pumpers by one. When the Fire Senior personnel went to meetings they began advertising that we are selling one of the pumper trucks. Several communities inquired about the truck however Chief Nancy Carnee of the Fitzwilliam fire department came to see the truck and offered \$25,000 for it. I have gotten a verbal estimate for the Pumper truck of \$20,000 to \$25,000. The specifications are below:

1994 3D Paramount International Pumper

71, 000 Miles

5, 554 Hours

750 Gallon Water Tank

1250 GPM Pump

International DT466 Motor 270 HP

I respectfully request the Town Council's approval to sell the 1994 3D Paramount International Pumper to the Fitzwilliam Fire Department for \$25,000.

Approved: June 13, 2013

Posted: June 14, 2013

Councilor Dwyer restated his position; he would like to fund the purchase of the apparatus through the capital reserve account that was created by the contribution from the mall rather than monies set aside to address the capital improvements program (specifically slated for purchase of fire apparatus). Councilor Mahon stated that could not be done. He stated funds were appropriated and approved in the budget. He stated the funds in the account cannot be utilized until the expenditure is presented as part of the budget process.

Director Micali stated the Town is governed by State RSAs with regard to appropriations and revenue. When the Town completes its MS4 it sends revenue numbers to the State. The Town has the \$650,000 in the bank. The Council has not decided where to put those funds. There are regulations and rules that need to be followed in order to appropriate those funds to certain areas. The funds cannot be used to offset this purchase at this time. When the MS4 revenue numbers, which set the tax rate, were sent to the State, they indicated a transfer of \$450,000 from that capital reserve fund into the budget as revenue to offset the cost of the fire apparatus.

Director Micali stated in order for the funds to be appropriated a public hearing needs to be conducted and the Council would be required to vote on both the transfer of funds from the expendable trust account to a budget line item for equipment purchase and on expenditure of the funds. Councilor Dwyer requested he be provided with the applicable State Statute(s) that require a public hearing be conducted. Director Micali stated he would provide the reference information and will obtain a legal opinion.

**MOTION made by Councilor Boyd and seconded by Councilor Mahon to expend the sum of \$435,561.00 from the Fire Apparatus Capital Reserve fund for the purpose of purchasing one (1) new 2013 KME Predator Panther Challenger pumper for the Town of Merrimack, and further that the Town Manager and/or her designee be authorized to effectuate and sign any and all required documents to approve the transaction**

#### ON THE QUESTION

Councilor Boyd stated his agreement with the recommendation received from staff as to how the funds should be appropriated. He thanked the department for its presentation, and remarked the rationale behind the purchase is self-explanatory.

Councilor Dwyer stated his is not opposed to replacing an old outdated pumper; however, it has been stated the desire is to place the 2005 American LaFrance engine in reserve status and that the 1987 open cab engine be taken out of service. He has heard the opinion the American LaFrance has been a bad choice since purchase, has very a very high maintenance cost, etc. He questioned why the desire would be to keep this in reserve given its history/performance. He spoke of the discussion that occurred during the retreat about reexamining the department's equipment needs, e.g., not retain inadequate equipment. He spoke of regionalization and looking to neighboring communities to serve as backup in the event frontline equipment is out of service.

He stated he would vote in opposition of the motion because he is without a proper evaluation of the equipment needs of the entire department. Secondly, if the south fire station is going to be refurbished, as was discussed during the retreat, it may be an ambulance rescue rather than a fire station, yet the desire is to spend half a million dollars on a piece of equipment that was specifically chosen because of

Approved: June 13, 2013

Posted: June 14, 2013

the low doors at the facility. He stated his desire for the personnel in the department to have the finest equipment available at their disposal; however, he wants the Town to purchase equipment that is not based on a particular facility whose future is uncertain.

Chairman Rothhaus stated his understanding the old pumper would be used for parts as the trade-in value is less than the value of parts. Lt. Duke noted in speaking to the manufacturers, the unanimous comment was the vehicle is worth very little monetarily as either a trade or for sale partially because of its age and partially because of the open cab configuration. The old pumper will go to equipment maintenance and be used as a source for parts. Chief Currier noted from what equipment maintenance personnel have stated, the department achieved somewhere between \$10,000 - \$12,000 in savings by utilizing parts from the old 1991 KME when that engine was taken out of service. That value would never be achieved through a trade-in. Vice Chairman Yakuboff questioned whether a small town up north would have use for the pumper truck. Chief Currier stated his belief there are no departments within the state that are still running open cabs.

Councilor Harrington questioned the age of the other pumpers in town. Lt. Duke stated the engine running as Engine 1 out of the central station is a 2010. That engine is very similar to what is being proposed. One of the hopes is that by moving the 2005 into reserve status the reduced number of hours and miles will result in lower maintenance costs. Chief Currier spoke of the extensive amount of replacement parts and repair work on the vehicle, which has brought it to the point where it is believed it is not costing as much as it has in the past. At present, a review is being conducted of all equipment in the department to determine whether 5 pumpers are needed or 4, etc. He noted the last audit of equipment was done in 2007/2008. The plan put together at that time is not sufficient for the current economic environment, the needs of the community, EMS considerations, etc.

Councilor Dwyer remarked until the equipment review has been completed a decision should not be made to purchase. Chief Currier stated at present there are five engines. The proposal is for the purchase of a new engine to be the 5<sup>th</sup> engine. The '87 KME will be scrapped. The department is in the process of reviewing its fleet and what is needed to meet future needs. The next scheduled pumper purchase is in 2015/2016 or 2016/2017. Prior to the next purchase the department will have the data to determine whether it will continue with five pumpers. He stated his belief in order to stay on track with the replacement plan identified within the Capital Improvements Plan this purchase needs to occur. He stated his belief acceptance of a plan for the future will be in place before moving on to the next purchase.

Town Manager Cabanel stated what is being evaluated is what equipment will be retained not purchases. Councilor Koenig commented he was not made aware of urgency for a new pumper. He stated he does not have a clear understanding of what equipment we have, how it is being utilized, and whether we have actually evaluated if the right decisions have been made along the way. Chief Currier stated his opinion the purchase of the American LaFrance was probably not the right decision. He stated the result of the purchase is a great deal of money was spent refurbishing the Engine II and the ladder truck. The department is at a point now where the desire is to reduce the run time on those vehicles. If Engine II is placed in reserve status and the new vehicle, which is a proven vehicle, is purchased, the department can continue on track with the Capital Improvements Program and continue moving through the evaluation process.

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Vice Chairman Yakuboff questioned the mileage of the current equipment. It was stated the 1987 KME being proposed to be taken out of service has approximately 64,000 and around 5,000 hours. Chief Currier commented every 1,000 hours is about 10,000 miles, resulting in about 100,000 projected on that vehicle right now. Lt. Duke stated his belief the 2005 American LaFrance has approximately 65,000 – 70,000 miles on it. When asked what can be expected out of a pumper truck. Chief Currier stated it depends on idle time and the type of vehicle. He suggested 100,000 - 120,000 miles.

Town Manager Cabanel noted fire equipment is in the shop for preventative maintenance quite a bit to avoid breakdowns on the way to an emergency. The need to keep the equipment well maintained takes it out of service at times, which creates the need for reserve vehicles. It was noted there are difficulties obtaining replacement parts for the American LaFrance. Over the past three years that engine has averaged almost \$17,000 a year in maintenance costs.

Councilor Koenig questioned whether the new truck being proposed would be sized to fit in the south station. Lt. Duke stated that was a consideration; however, from his perspective, there were no compromises in other areas of the apparatus to get it to fit in that station. Councilor Koenig noted one of the points made during the presentation of the American LaFrance prior to its purchase, was that the equipment was in fact a little shorter than its competitor trucks and would fit into the south station and still provide ample room to walk behind it while the door was down. Lt. Duke stated the LaFrance fits, but you can barely walk behind it. There are approximately 14” in the front and 14” in the back to get between the door and the back of the building. The proposed truck is approximately 3’ shorter than the LaFrance. One of the things the American LaFrance has that this truck does not, and which adds to the length, is a compartment between the cab and where the pump sits. The compartment goes all the way across the truck and adds approx. 2.5 - 3’ to the length of the truck. They have accommodated their storage needs in other ways and removed that compartment from the truck. By doing so they took 2 - 3’ of length off the truck and 2 - 3’ out of the wheel base, which will provide for better handling. Chief Currier stated it would be similar in size and maneuverability to Engine I.

Councilor Dwyer questioned whether a different KME model would have been chosen if not for the restriction at the south fire station. Lt. Duke stated his opinion it would not have. He stated the only sticking point was overall height. The only thing that influenced was where the ladders were stored. There are other ladder storage options such as hydraulic racks that will put the ladders above the top of the truck. Those were not an option because of building restrictions, however, there are drawbacks to those storage systems as well, e.g., in order to use the ladders they need to be hydraulically lowered down to the side of the truck and however far it is from the pivot to the top of the truck is how far it is going to stick out to the side of the truck.

**MOTION CARRIED 4/3/0**

*Councilors Yakuboff, Koenig, and Dwyer voted in opposition*

**Minutes**

Approve the minutes from the Town Council meetings of April 25, 2013 and May 9, 2013.

**April 25, 2013**

*The following amendment was offered:*