

August 26, 2019

Mayor Brett Essex called the meeting to order on Monday, August 26, 2019 with all members present.

Visitors: Troy Cole, Chris Cocoa, Shane Barkley

Troy Cole states that the New Concord Firefighter's Association will be donating \$5000 toward the purchase of the fire truck, which is likely to be used to repaint the truck.

Lyle states that this meeting is a council meeting to vote on legislation, but it is also a meeting of the finance committee to discuss payment for a 1997 used Aerial Platform Truck.

Stevic states that she is uncomfortable with the fact that there is a budget available for only one year of financing for the truck.

Essex states that the first payment for the truck will be made using the insurance payment, which will be \$37,500, giving council a year to figure out a plan to properly fund this investment.

Lyle states that by purchasing the truck the Village is obligated to find the money to pay for it. She states that the Village is comparing the risk of being down a vehicle versus the risk of debt for said vehicle. She feels that there could be another vehicle available once the financial side has been firmed up and, in the meantime, there is a mutual aid agreement with other fire departments.

Baier states that he feels that this vehicle purchase is extremely important but every unplanned expense could be considered an emergency. He states that the need must be measured against the fiscal health of the Village.

Stevic states that there are safety concerns to be considered if this money is spent and then other possible unplanned expenses occur.

Kearns states that the fire department is already down an engine.

Cole replies that Rescue 901 will be back in service the following day. He states that the aerial truck is used for anything over 35 feet off the ground, which would include dorms at Muskingum and rooms at the Garland Hotel.

Essex states that he is not willing to take on liability to risk lives over money.

Lyle asks how frequently the aerial truck is used in the Village?

Cole states that it is used usually two to three times a year. He states that it is the least used but most important vehicle in the department.

Lyle states that the choice to be made is not between having the truck now or not having the truck ever.

Stevic asks if it is possible to wait two months to purchase the truck to gather information asked for in the safety committee meeting, such as selling trucks for scrap and estimated needs for 2019. She states that she is uncomfortable making a decision so quickly with little information.

Dickson states that as a retired firefighter he sees the need to buy this truck, as it fits the needs of the fire department at this time, and take the year to figure out the financing.

Essex states that there has been due diligence in finding this particular truck. He states that the plan to do a full study on the fire department will bring more clarity to issues of fire department funding going forward. He states that he is unwilling to accept the risk to the fire department working without the aerial truck.

Wootton asks when the first payment on the truck is due?

Colley states about October 2020. She states that additional money would be needed by October 2021. She states that a comprehensive study of the fire department will lead to funding revenues and finances.

Stevic states that she appreciates the work done on finding this truck and that if this purchase forces a reevaluation of funding then that will ultimately be good.

Baier asks what is the costs of the comprehensive study?

Colley states \$20,000.

Baier states that this is another cost. He states that there is a communication gap with the fire department for unexpected expenses.

Lyle states that the concerns brought forth by Fiscal Officer Lynn Marlatt need to be addressed and the items from the safety committee meeting need to be taken care of. She also states that there needs to be more communication.

Baier states that council would like monthly updates.

Lyle states that there need to be ongoing meetings.

Essex asks that the fire department members who are also members of the association who are at the meeting understand and encourage enhanced communication.

Stevic asks what the next step is?

Colley states that one plan for a comprehensive review will be presented to council, and possibly another. Past studies will also be taken into consideration.

Stevic asks how long the process will take?

Colley answers three to six months.

Lyle asks if there could be monthly reports of progress to council?

Colley states that could lead to extra cost but that reports could be made to her or the mayor.

Kearns asks what is the hope to be gained in the study?

Colley replies issues of staffing, better ways to allocate and spend money, planning for equipment and capital improvements, and finding funding revenue.

Dickson states that he generally does not like to hire consultants because often there is money spent on studies that don't lead to any concrete change.

Essex states that he feels that this study will be helpful as there is no one with the expertise to properly staff or finance the fire department.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Dickson

Seconded by Wootton

Resolution 8-19-6, a resolution authorizing the Fiscal Officer to issue an RFP to obtain financing for a used 1997 Sutphen Aerial Platform Truck and declaring an emergency.

Wootton	yea
Baier	yea
Dickson	yea

Stevic	yea
Lyle	yea
Kearns	yea

Motion Passes

Moved by Wootton

Seconded by Dickson

That **Resolution 8-19-6** be approved as read.

Wootton	yea
Baier	yea
Dickson	yea

Stevic	yea
Lyle	yea
Kearns	yea

Motion Passes

Moved by Lyle

Seconded by Dickson

Resolution 8-19-7, a resolution to authorize the Mayor to enter into an purchase agreement with Herb Fire Equipment services and declaring an emergency.

Wootton	yea
Baier	yea
Dickson	yea

Stevic	yea
Lyle	yea
Kearns	yea

Motion Passes

Moved by Dickson

Seconded by Lyle

That **Resolution 8-19-7** be approved as read.

Wootton	yea
Baier	yea
Dickson	yea

Stevic	yea
Lyle	yea
Kearns	yea

Motion Passes

Essex asks for a motion to allow Chief Gates to make an offer of the 1990 aerial truck to Jackson Township for \$10,000. Lyle asks if Jackson Township would bring any reasonable offer could it be brought to council? Essex states yes.

Stevic makes a motion, Baier seconds, to allow Chief Gates to make an offer of the 1990 aerial truck to Jackson Township for \$10,000. Motion passes.

ADJOURNMENTS: Motion by Dickson, second by Wootton to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Mayor

Fiscal Officer