

Memo



To: Honorable Mayor James Boyd
Members of the Common Council

From: Alan Matzke, Fire Chief

Date: March 18, 2021

Re: Aerial Truck Purchase Update

De Pere Fire Rescue will be moving forward with the purchase of a new aerial truck from Ferrara Fire Apparatus.

The current aerial truck is a 1993 rear mount platform quint. The term quint is short for quintuple combination pumper which serves the dual purpose of an engine and ladder truck. “Quintuple” refers to the five functions that a quint provides-pump, water tank, fire hose, aerial device, and ground ladders.

This vehicle has served the city well but unfortunately, it’s nearing the end of life, leading to difficulty obtaining replacement parts, reliability, and maintenance concerns.

I commissioned a team of department members and conducted an aerial needs assessment in 2019, in an effort to determine if 30 years of change within our community may have any impact on specific vehicle capabilities or needs. The assessment supported the continued need for the existing type of vehicle and did not lead to any suggested changes. The report was presented to the Mayor and Administrator in August of 2019 before the start of the budget process.

Our team collaborated to develop a request for proposal and we solicited proposals from seven manufactures of rear mount platform quints. Five manufactures responded and our team worked to evaluate and score and rate the five proposals. Many factors were considered and some examples are operational function, warranty, reliability, cost, customer references to name a few.

Our team was comprised of ten members with five recommending Seagrave as the first and Ferrara as the second choice. Unfortunately, Seagrave was greater than \$250,000 over budget after a trade, loose equipment, and any credits. Ferrara was recommended as the first choice by five and the second choice by the other five. The Ferrara will meet all of your needs within budget.

The budgeted amount is \$1,260,000 and the proposals are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1) Seagrave | \$1,399,830.00 |
| 2) Ferrara | \$1,125,276.00 |
| 3) Pierce | \$1,118,538.10 |

Below is an image of a truck very similar to our proposal.



The cost of emergency service vehicles to our community is enormous and I don't take the responsibility of practicing fiscal prudence lightly. I was on duty the day our 1993 truck was delivered and I embraced the flexible capability concept of cross-training a small staff to successfully perform any of the fire ground operations. I believe I have more hours of operation on our 1993 than anyone and when I get to use it's a great day at work.

It is a privilege to have the opportunity to serve our community, the equipment and support we receive from City leadership and all of you are so much appreciated. I believe this vehicle will serve our community's needs for years to come.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted.

Alan Matzke

