



MEMORANDUM

The Town of Ponce Inlet staff shall be professional, caring and fair in delivering community excellence while ensuring Ponce Inlet citizens obtain the greatest value for their tax dollar.

To: Micheal E. Disher, AICP, Town Manager
From: Dan Scales, Public Safety Director
Date: September 27, 2024
Subject: Supplementary information regarding use of the existing fire engine as a reserve apparatus

MEETING DATE: October 3, 2024

1 Below is additional information about the decision to retain or dispose of the existing fire engine,
2 in response to questions that have been received from the public. I hope you and the ESAB find
3 the responses helpful as part of the evaluation process.
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5 **1. What is the potential sale value of the existing fire engine?** To date we have the
6 following price information from current research:
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8 City of New Smyrna engine auction (through J.J. Kane Auctioneers) - \$6,000
9 City of Deltona engine auction (through Govdeals.com)- \$19,105
10 Matheny Fire & Emergency offer - \$50,000
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12 We also have outstanding submittals with Fenton Fire Apparatus, Command Fire
13 Apparatus, Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus, Fire Line Equipment, Bunker Fire Safety
14 and Fire Mall but have not received any offers yet.
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16 **2. Can the Town solicit bids for the sale of the existing engine to get an idea of the best**
17 **price?** Yes, soliciting bids is a standard practice for obtaining competitive pricing. This
18 allows the Town to compare bids and evaluate different vendors based on cost,
19 specifications, and qualifications, ensuring the most cost-effective solution. Although not
20 used frequently, this process is authorized by the Code of Ordinances Sec. 2-382(a) upon
21 declaration of the engine as surplus property by the Town Council.
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23 **3. Do other communities have reserve fire engines? What is the nationally recommended**
24 **best practice or standard?** Yes, most communities have reserve fire trucks to ensure
25 coverage when primary vehicles are out of service. The National Fire Protection
26 Association (NFPA) recommends having reserve apparatus to ensure operational
27 continuity. Maintaining a reserve unit is viewed as best practice for fire departments.
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4. **If the Town keeps the existing fire engine, where would it be stored?** There are two options. The first option is to store the reserve engine at the Town’s fire station. Room can be made available by disposing of the mini-pumper, moving the two lawn equipment trailers at Public Works to the garages behind the fire station, and relocating the reserve ambulance to one of the tall bays at the Public Works facility. Relocating the two Public Works lawn equipment trailers to the garages behind the fire station has the added benefit of providing more convenient positioning for grounds equipment maintenance for the north half of town. The second option is to store it in New Smyrna Beach, which has agreed to do so at no cost to the Town.
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5. **How are such arrangements typically handled between Fire Departments? Is an MOU or interlocal agreement typical or necessary? Even if not typical, can it be handled that way?** The fire departments in southeast Volusia County, including Port Orange, Daytona Beach Shores, New Smyrna, South Daytona, and Edgewater, have maintained a close, informal working relationship regarding the use of reserve apparatus. We have borrowed fire trucks and ambulances from other southeast cities for over a decade without any conflicts or disputes over maintenance and insurance responsibility. While this system has worked well, we could formalize it with an MOU or interlocal agreement to clarify terms of use, responsibility, and liability.
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6. **Will other communities get to use our existing fire engine if they agree to store it? If so, what does the Town get in return?** Typically, if another community stores our existing engine, there will be an agreement allowing them to use it when needed. In return, the Town will require that the storage will be at no cost and that the city using the reserve engine covers the cost of fuel and maintenance services. *It should be noted that the loaning city always has priority for use of its apparatus and can reclaim it at any time.* This type of arrangement can be clearly defined in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or interlocal agreement.
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7. **For the community using our reserve fire engine, are Ponce Inlet taxpayers subsidizing it by paying for something they won’t?** No, since there would be a clear cost-sharing or mutual benefit arrangement in place.
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8. **How much will it cost annually to maintain and insure the existing fire engine in a reserve capacity?** The estimated routine maintenance for the reserve engine is approximately \$2,000 annually, along with an insurance cost of \$1,600.
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9. **Does the Town bear any liability for an accident caused by the other community using our reserve vehicle? Who pays?** If the other community is using our reserve fire engine, they assume responsibility for any damages or accidents. Liability insurance or indemnification clauses would be important to include in an MOU or interlocal agreement to protect Ponce Inlet.
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10. **If the Town does not keep the existing fire engine, how many reserve fire engines are currently available in surrounding communities for us to use if necessary?** Below is

74 the current reserve inventory for the surrounding departments:

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76 Daytona Beach Shores – 1

77 Port Orange – 2

78 Edgewater – 1

79 New Smyrna Beach – 0 (will have 2 when new engines are received)

80 South Daytona – 1

81

82 No fire department is under any obligation to loan its vehicles to another jurisdiction.

83 Ponce Inlet has been able to do so over the years because of the close working relationship

84 our region has had, both on response and asset sharing.

85

86 **11. What is the process for securing a fire engine from another community if we need to**

87 **do so? How long does it take?** The time to secure a reserve engine takes time, provided

88 one is actually available. It is not uncommon for it to take hours to find a vehicle from

89 another city. The process involves calling each city to find an available reserve apparatus.

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91 **12. How often can we expect our existing fire engine to be used as a backup in Ponce**

92 **Inlet? In other words, how often will the new engine be out of service for**

93 **maintenance?** The new fire engine will need to undergo regular preventive maintenance,

94 which will require it to be out of service for short periods. We expect the frequency to be a

95 few times a year with an average occurrence of once every other month. This does not

96 include unforeseen repairs, which can still occur, even if less frequently with a new

97 apparatus.

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99 **13. At the September 19, 2024 Town Council meeting, it was disclosed that the existing**

100 **pumper is being sold. Why now?** The removal of the mini-pumper from the fleet has been

101 under evaluation for over a year. To keep fleet vehicle maintenance costs manageable, we

102 believe that now is the appropriate time to retire the truck. The vehicle, which is over 20

103 years old, no longer serves a functional purpose in the department.

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105 The mini-pumper was originally purchased by Harbour Village at the request of the former

106 fire chief, specifically to access the “cloverleaf” parking decks of the condominiums.

107 However, these areas are fully sprinklered, and standpipes are easily accessible, eliminating

108 the need for a specialized vehicle like the mini-pumper. Over the years, we have not had to

109 use the vehicle for its intended purpose.

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111 In addition to its limited utility, the mini-pumper now faces significant maintenance issues.

112 The fire pump now requires a complete rebuild, which would cost between \$8,000 and

113 \$10,000. Furthermore, the truck is equipped with a six-liter diesel engine, which are known

114 for head gasket failures—a likely and costly repair as the vehicle ages. The value of the

115 vehicle itself is only slightly more than \$10,000.

116

117 With the pending acquisition of a new Quint apparatus, and if the current fire engine is

118 reassigned to reserve status, the mini-pumper would no longer have a clear role in the fleet.

119 Given the maintenance costs, mechanical issues, and lack of a defined mission, Staff does
120 not believe it is in the town’s best interest to keep the vehicle in service.

121
122 **14. The Town currently has two ambulances. Why is the fire engine also needed to**
123 **provide EMS services? Why is the fire engine equipped with Advanced Life Support**
124 **capabilities rather than both ambulances?** The second ambulance currently serves as a
125 reserve transport vehicle and is not fully equipped with its own advanced life support
126 (ALS) gear. When the reserve ambulance is needed, the ALS equipment—such as
127 monitors, defibrillators, and medication kits—is transferred from the primary ambulance to
128 the reserve unit. This allows the reserve ambulance to be deployed for patient transport
129 when the primary unit is unavailable or out of service.

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131 The town’s fire engine is dual-purpose, functioning as both an ALS response vehicle and a
132 fire suppression unit. It carries medical supplies and firefighters trained as paramedics or
133 EMTs, enabling the engine to respond to medical emergencies as well as fires. This is a
134 standard practice in many departments and ensures the town maintains both emergency
135 medical services (EMS) and firefighting capabilities if both are needed for the same
136 emergency call.

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138 **15. If the Town elects to keep the existing fire engine, and it is being stored out of town 30**
139 **minutes away, what is the difference between that and requesting help from another**
140 **nearby department for an emergency?** The difference is that when the existing engine is
141 being stored out of town or retrieved for back-up use, the process would be planned and
142 scheduled well in advance. This coordination ensures the reserve engine is available when
143 needed.

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145 In the case of unscheduled maintenance, such as mechanical failures or emergency repairs,
146 the situation is less predictable. During these instances, our immediate fire response would
147 rely on mutual aid agreements with neighboring cities while we secure a reserve engine, as
148 per our current practice. This ensures the town remains protected during the interim. There
149 are risks to this approach, though. Relying solely on mutual aid can create response time
150 gaps and add strain to neighboring departments, especially if they are handling their own
151 emergencies.

From: [Joseph Landreville](#)
To: [Dan Scales](#)
Subject: FW: Ponce Inlet Fire Rescue Trade In Values
Date: Friday, September 27, 2024 9:57:40 AM

From: Sarah Jackson <SJackson@mathenyfire.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 3:46 PM
To: Joseph Landreville <jlandreville@ponce-inlet.org>
Subject: FW: Ponce Inlet Fire Rescue Trade In Values

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Hi Chief,

Here is the information I received from Bill. Please feel free to reach out to him as he said these were some rough numbers.

Thank you and Stay Safe,

Sarah Jackson
Territory Sales Manager



725 SW 46th Ave
Ocala, FL 34474

Mobile: 352-502-3658
sjackson@mathenyfire.com

From: William Bradley <w.bradley48@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 10:43 AM
To: Sarah Jackson <SJackson@mathenyfire.com>
Subject: Ponce Inlet Fire Rescue Trade In Values

Hi Sarah,

Here is what I would offer Ponce Inlet on their 2 units:

2003 Ford F-550 Mini Pumper - \$10,000

2009 E-ONE Typhoon Pumper - \$50,000

Any questions or concerns please let me know

Thanks

Bill Bradley

908-812-6439

From: [Jeri Hall](#)
To: [Mike Disher](#); [Dan Scales](#)
Cc: [Kim McCol](#)
Subject: FW: PUMPER TRUCK SELL
Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 1:59:59 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[PUMPERTRCK-09242024134013.pdf](#)

Mike/Dan:

Attached is information from the City of New Smyrna Beach from the sale of a 2003 Pierce Firetruck for \$6,000. Hopefully, this will help.

Thank you,

Jeri Hall
Assistant Finance Director
Town of Ponce Inlet
4300 S. Atlantic Ave.
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127
jhall@ponce-inlet.org
386-236-2150

"The Town of Ponce Inlet staff shall be professional, caring, and fair in delivering community excellence while ensuring Ponce Inlet citizens obtain the greatest value for their tax dollar."

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From: Hall, Heath <HHall@cityofnsb.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 1:47 PM
To: Jeri Hall <jhall@ponce-inlet.org>
Subject: PUMPER TRUCK SELL

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Heath Hall

Fleet Manager
City of New Smyrna Beach
Office: (386)424-2210
Cell : (386)527-4400
Email: hhall@cityofnsb.com
www.cityofnsb.com
124 Industrial Park Ave
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32168



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CITY OF NEW SMYRNA BEACH FLORIDA
www.cityofnsb.com

Payout ID: 133759
Auction ID: 846



33 Inverness Center Pkwy
Birmingham, AL 35242
Phone: (856) 764-7163
Fax: (877) 346-8960

J.J. Kane Exchange, LLC d/b/a J.J. Kane Auctioneers
33 Inverness Center Parkway Birmingham AL 35243

LOT SUMMARY

CITY OF NEW SMYRNA BEACH

124 Industrial Park Ave

New Smyrna, FL 32168

9/26/2023 AL (Southeast Regional) - 846

| Lot ID | Description | Amt Bid: | Expense | Explanation |
|---|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| OF200 11576 No Sale <input type="checkbox"/> | 2015 Ford Taurus AWD 4-Door Sedan, 6-cyl gas, Auto, A/C, (113,854 miles) (Runs & Moves) (Jump to Start, Minor Body Damage) (Branded Title - Police Vehicle) NOTE: This unit is being sold AS IS/WHERE IS via Timed Auction. For pickup information and terms, please reference the release form. (Buyer is responsible for removal. Assistance by consignor or JJ Kane Auctioneers is not assured.) VIN: 1FAHP2MK1FG140845 | \$3,000.00 | ----EXPENSE---- | ----EXPLANATION---- |
| | | Commission: \$90.00 | Adjustments: 0 | |
| | | Transportation: \$220.00 | Parts/Repairs: \$0.00 | |
| | | Washing: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 1: \$0.00 | |
| | | Decomission: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 2: \$0.00 | |
| | | | | \$2,690.00 |
| OF201 12094 No Sale <input type="checkbox"/> | 2019 Ford Fusion 4-Door Sedan, 4-cyl gas, Auto, A/C, (35,358 miles) (Runs & Moves) NOTE: This unit is being sold AS IS/WHERE IS via Timed Auction. For pickup information and terms, please reference the release form. (Buyer is responsible for removal. Assistance by consignor or JJ Kane Auctioneers is not assured.) VIN: 3FA6P0G74KR185963 | \$10,500.00 | ----EXPENSE---- | ----EXPLANATION---- |
| | | Commission: \$315.00 | Adjustments: 0 | |
| | | Transportation: \$220.00 | Parts/Repairs: \$0.00 | |
| | | Washing: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 1: \$0.00 | |
| | | Decomission: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 2: \$0.00 | |
| | | | | \$9,965.00 |
| OF202 09337 No Sale <input type="checkbox"/> | 2000 John Deere 1020 Mini Tractor Loader Backhoe, s/n LV5205B120800, diesel, manual, (Runs, Moves & Operates)(Minor Rust Damage.) (Reads 3,180 hours) NOTE: This unit is being sold AS IS/WHERE IS via Timed Auction. For pickup information and terms, please reference the release form. (Buyer is responsible for removal. Assistance by consignor or JJ Kane Auctioneers is not assured.) VIN: LV5205B120800 | \$10,500.00 | ----EXPENSE---- | ----EXPLANATION---- |
| | | Commission: \$315.00 | Adjustments: 0 | |
| | | Transportation: \$220.00 | Parts/Repairs: \$0.00 | |
| | | Washing: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 1: \$0.00 | |
| | | Decomission: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 2: \$0.00 | |
| | | | | \$9,965.00 |
| OF203 09595 No Sale <input type="checkbox"/> | 2003 Pierce Series 40 Pumper/Fire Truck, 8.7L diesel, Auto, A/C, True Mileage Unknown (Runs & Moves) NOTE: This unit is being sold AS IS/WHERE IS via Timed Auction. For pickup information and terms, please reference the release form. (Buyer is responsible for removal. Assistance by consignor or JJ Kane Auctioneers is not assured.) VIN: 4P1CT02U23A002830 | \$6,000.00 | ----EXPENSE---- | ----EXPLANATION---- |
| | | Commission: \$180.00 | Adjustments: 0 | |
| | | Transportation: \$220.00 | Parts/Repairs: \$0.00 | |
| | | Washing: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 1: \$0.00 | |
| | | Decomission: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 2: \$0.00 | |
| | | | | \$5,600.00 |
| OF205 10199 No Sale <input type="checkbox"/> | 2006 Trail King 10-TON 10 Ton T/A Tagalong Equipment Trailer, (Good condition, towable) NOTE: This unit is being sold AS IS/WHERE IS via Timed Auction. For pickup information and terms, please reference the release form. (Buyer is responsible for removal. Assistance by consignor or JJ Kane Auctioneers is not assured.) VIN: 1TKC026267B077206 | \$3,250.00 | ----EXPENSE---- | ----EXPLANATION---- |
| | | Commission: \$97.50 | Adjustments: 0 | |
| | | Transportation: \$220.00 | Parts/Repairs: \$0.00 | |
| | | Washing: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 1: \$0.00 | |
| | | Decomission: \$0.00 | Misc Exp 2: \$0.00 | |
| | | | | \$2,932.50 |

From: [Bush Swisher](#)
To: [Dan Scales](#)
Cc: [Bill Snyder](#)
Subject: Questions and Answers
Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 2:29:59 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Let me know if you have any questions, hope this helps.

1. Have any of you recently (last 2 years) sold an engine – **Yes , 2002 Pierce pumper sold on 1/12/2024**
2. If you sold an engine, what was the value - **\$19,105 final price after fees**
3. Did you auction or use a broker for the sale – **Govdeals.com charges a percentage of sale and taxes**
4. How many active reserve engines do you currently have in your fleet
 - a. **4 Frontline Engines**
 - b. **1 Frontline Aerial (if aerial OOS a reserve Engine used in its place)**
 - c. **3 Reserve Engines**

Bush Swisher

Deltona Fire & Rescue
Deputy Fire Chief
Cell: 386-717-5753
Work: 386-575-6904



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Statutes, please so indicate in your email or other communication. If you have any questions about the Florida public records law refer to Chapter 119 Florida Statutes.