

SPECIAL MEETING

May 16th, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Barbara J. Lloyd with the recitation of the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

Roll Call – In Attendance – Paul Lowe, Kim St. Clair, Ed Harlan, Mike Nunley, and Greg Gibson

Absent – Bo Coconis

Mayor Lloyd started the meeting by stating “The Agenda for this meeting is strictly to discuss the fire truck”. Mayor Lloyd then asked Chief Taylor if he got a copy of the memorandum from the Village Solicitor in regards to the lease. Mayor Lloyd then asked if he could provide any answers to his questions. Chief Taylor stated from the memorandum he Mr. Van Horn wrote It does not appear that there is any down payment and I cannot believe that our first payment is not due for one year without some form of down payment. Russell stated that every truck you purchase through Pierce there is one year before a payment is due. Back when we bought the engine we had the option then to hold off until we made a payment. Mayor Lloyd asked what is this then, we are not buying it from Pierce. Russell replied according to Ben, the salesman, that they would buy the truck.

Council Member Lowe said here is the problem with that, on the lease agreement it says on page 2, paragraph 8, “Acknowledges that statements made by sales representatives or in promotional materials do not constitute warranties” or anything they standby basically. It does not constitute warranties but does it constitute anything else? What does that mean? What that means is there is no warranty on that truck per Exhibit B. There is no warranty what-so-ever. So, it is really not a lease it is a buy. I don’t know why they are framing it as a lease. This is what Kevin (Solicitor Van Horn) says.

Council Member St. Clair because there is to many unknowns. Council Member Lowe said it is because our Solicitor doesn’t like the contract. Council Member Gibson added I’m all for protecting every person that lives in this Village as fast as we can in time. But, we are talking about a couple hundred thousand dollars here when I don’t think that we have explored all of our options with our old one (truck). Mayor Lloyd said that she heard that you (Greg) had someone from Detroit Diesel coming in. Council Member Gibson replied I have one of their main tech’s coming in, did Chris tell you? Chief Taylor said he said something about it and that he would be here next Wednesday. Council Member said 3:30 next Wednesday afternoon he will be here and he already has ideas. I told him some stuff that I knew so he has ideas. He has worked on these old one before. I also have another guy that is a Detroit Diesel expert. He is out of town this week but will be back next week He rebuilt the Lorena engine. Rob Parker used to be and ended his career as the diesel tech at Mid-East Vocational School. He is retired now and all he does now is work on old diesels. Rebuilds them and all that stuff. So, we have a couple of options. FIDA and Neff’s have looked at it but they have a lot of young guy with computers but this truck needs an old guy seems like to me. He, the Detroit Diesel guy, was telling me he has some ideas. Council Member Gibson asked Chief Taylor (Russell) if FIDA changed out the ECM’s. Russell replied yes. Council Member Gibson asked if they had changed out the ignition. Russell replied no, but, Crawmer’s wrapped it in fire retardant. Council Member Gibson said he them trucks back then, what year is that truck? Council Member Lowe stated 1997 or 1998. Council Member Gibson said ok I told him 1997, he said them years and the model of engine are known for bad ignitions. The ignitions get hot and shut off so he has a bunch of ideas.

Council Member Gibson said here is me, if the truck is a couple of thousand dollars, even if we have to spend \$10,000 to fix this truck, if he can really fix it, we are saving \$190,000 and in 3 years we can get a new tanker, right? Russell if we can get the grant.

Council Member Lowe said going back to what Greg (Council Member Gibson) said let me tell you that I agree with Greg on this and wait until we get the analysis and see if it is possible to fix the old truck. If we can play the waiting game great, but if we can't and we are forced and we can't fix that thing then we will have to store that thing, maybe at the township garage because we don't have a place to store it here so now we are running into a storage problem. We just gave raises, we are tried to do the best we could for everyone first most the citizens and what would the citizens say if they were sitting here. They would be at least understanding that we are trying to fix the truck and we are getting all the people in here to try to fix the truck. I think that is all they ask for.

Council Member Gibson said it has to be a mechanical issue, there has got to be a way to fix it. The engine is not blown, I mean even if you had to buy a new engine your talking about \$20,000. Even if you find a used engine, I mean when I called over to Detroit and talked to their tech that if we had to they could find us an engine. He said it had to be electronic, it might be hard to find but it can definitely be fixed. Chief Taylor said when he looks at it, works on it and says he has it fixed and I get down the road and it shuts off, wrecks and somebody gets killed what do we do then? Council Member Gibson said he is the problem is that you can drive any truck and it will shut off and go down the road. We have the same problem with buses. We have ECM's goes out the bus shuts down there is a chance of hurting somebody. Mayor Lloyd said we would make sure the mechanic drove it afterwards. Chief Taylor said we might drive it for a week now and it might not do anything. Council Member Gibson said it's the same way for a school bus. We changed stuff, all we got it fixed it's been good for a week and a half. Next thing you know it is doing it again. There is so much electronics and stuff on these vehicles from 1995 on it is just ridiculous and you don't know if you have it fixed. It might work for 2 weeks and then all of a sudden do the exact same thing, you don't know. Council Member Lowe said he (Detroit Tech) has a list of things that he thinks is probable and we can replace them, a checklist. If we spend \$2000 to \$4,000 and we it, we are way ahead. Council Member Gibson said "my son-in-law works for Haliburton and they bought a brand-new flatbed, three weeks into having a brand-new truck is was going bad, it was just shutting down on them, it could happen to any vehicle at any time.

Council Member Lowe asked would council be thinking that we should wait and get word on this before we do anything else? Mayor Lloyd said I think that is the best idea, lets wait until the Detroit Tech comes, the 2 guys, next week, get a look at it and see what they think. As far as the financing I would rather, since it sounds more like a purchase rather than a lease, do that locally. Chief Russell said I'm fine with that. Council Member Lowe we are going with the Solicitor's advise, then we have to pay taxes, we have to pay for the transport, we have to pay for lettering, and insurance. It's adding up and it is never ending and the truck has no warranty on it just 10 years newer than what we got. Chief Taylor said to me if these guys can't fix it we have to get it. Mayor Lloyd said a used one. Council Member Gibson said if the Detroit Diesel guy says, you know what buddy I can't fix it, which would be a miracle to me because things can always be fixed, then we will have to do something.

Council Member Lowe said this truck holds 750 gallons (water). Chief Taylor said no it holds 1,200 gallons the pumper (1415) holds 750 gallons. Council Member asked if the Engine (1415) can pump out hydrants. Mayor Lloyd said yes. Council Member Lower said I don't know anything about fire trucks. Chief Taylor said getting back to the hydrants, if you hooked up to a hydrant you would have all the water you wanted and not need a tanker. Council Member Lowe said we need someone to look at this thing and fix it. We pay \$9,393.60 every quarter for the ambulance, we have 4 more payments and I don't like this big payment once a year. I say we wait and see if we can fix this thing (tanker).

Mayor Lloyd asked if anybody else to discuss about this? Any other questions? Chief do you want to jump in with anything? Chief Taylor said my major concern is they might now what it is (the fix) but it would be reassuring if they come fix it and tell us your fine and good to go, don't worry about it. Council Member Gibson said when your working with electronics you are hoping you got it. Nobody knows for sure ever. There are brand new vehicles that shut down on the road now. Mayor Lloyd followed up by saying you do have it out of service, I mean your not letting anyone get in it and go. Chief Taylor said nobody is driving it until somebody tells me they can. Council Member St. Clair asked are you depending on Newton Township. Chief Taylor said we have it listed in the County that if we have a house fire to send us tankers. Council Member Lowe stated "but you don't know when they are going to send one". Chief Taylor said we don't know when or how long it's going to take. All we have is 15 minutes worth of water is all we got. Mayor Lloyd asked if the Fire Station is Zanesville would be allowed to respond? Chief Taylor said yes, they come automatically in the village. That gives us another 750 gallons of water and 1500 total gallons of water to work with.

Chief Taylor said I understand the concern of the money, but my major concern is about the safety. I'm willing to give the guys a chance to fix it (tanker) and we will go from there, but I don't want to put a ton of money in a truck that is 27 years old. Council Member Gibson said with all do respect I don't want to spend a \$165,000 on a 2007 truck, I would rather buy a new one. Chief Taylor said I would to for \$500,000 then to spend \$165,000 on a 2007 but we were looking for options. Council Member Lowe said if we can get through till May we will have that \$9,393.60 a quarter to use. Council Member Gibson said know body wants to go without a tanker till May.

Mayor Lloyd asked if Council wanted to table the decision until after the tanker was looked at by the Detroit Diesel Tech? Council Member Gibson said we have to because even if we wanted to buy the truck we can't vote on it right now. Chief Taylor stated even if we bought a stock truck we are looking at least 6 months because there is not one available. If you order a custom tanker like we got it is 4 years. Council Member Lowe motion to table the decision until the Tech can look at the truck. Seconded by Council Member Harlan. Chief Taylor confirmed that the Tech would be at the Fire Station on Wednesday, May 22nd at 3:30 PM to look at the truck. Council Member Gibson said yes but will confirm. Gibson – yay, Nunley – yay, Harlan – yay, St. Clair – yay, and Lowe - yay. Motion Carried.

ADJOURN

Ed moved to adjourn, seconded by Greg. Mayor Lloyd asked all to vote by stating I. All did. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.

Barbara Lloyd - Mayor

Chris Kerby – Clerk/Fiscal Officer