

Minutes
Special Board Meeting
7/27/2022

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Laureto at 1:38 PM in the Glen Arbor Township meeting room. Roll Call – B. Hawley, D. Lewis, P. Laureto, and T. Laureto present. J. Peppler absent. ESAC Chairperson P. Van Nort, Chief Ferguson, and one member of the public were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion B. Hawley, support D. Lewis, to approve the agenda as presented.

All Board members indicated no conflict of interest with any agenda item.

Public Comment: none

Supervisor Laureto stated that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the purchase of a new Fire Engine to be housed in the Empire fire station.

ESAC Chairperson Peter Van Nort presented information from the ESAC special meeting held earlier in the day. He stated that the idea of buying a new truck has been in discussion for 18 months and that Chief Ferguson put together a draft of the equipment schedule going forward. Since he has been Chief, he has reduced the number of apparatuses from 17 to 15 and his plan is to go down to 12 over the next several years. The proposed new truck is part of that plan because it replaces two other vehicles one of which has already been sold. He described that Chief Ferguson put together a team of 7 firefighters which was led by Lt. S. Lienard. The team toured various departments around the State to view their equipment and they discussed and studied what would be needed in a new Engine for the GLFD. After much work they prepared a list of specifications, and an RFP which was sent to 9 vendors of which 6 responded. The bids were then studied for compliance with the specifications. Three of the bids were eliminated because the specifications were not met. The three remaining bids were evaluated. Spartan was chosen because it fully met the specifications and it has the shortest build time. The Spartan truck is coming out of Grayling from the company that is currently doing the vehicle maintenance for the department.

Van Nort also stated that a member of ESAC asked Chief Ferguson numerous questions about purchasing used vehicles, standard vehicles, and repairing the existing truck. Van Nort stated that the existing truck has two problems, the frame is rusted and it is not expected to pass the next DOT inspection and, the inner workings need to be updated.

Van Nort said that when the discussion was finished, the 6 members of ESAC that were present voted 4:2 in favor of recommending to the Township Board that they proceed with the purchase of the truck. The two members who voted against it were both Empire representatives. The third Empire representative voted in favor of going forward. The three Glen Arbor representative who were present strongly supported the motion to go forward. The motion as stated was to recommend to the township to approve the purchase of one new Spartan Star Series Side Mount Rescue Engine from CSI Emergency Apparatus for \$825,589 to replace Engine 211.

Clerk Laureto asked Chief Ferguson to discuss the payment options with the Board. Ferguson referred the Board to two attachments they received with the ESAC minutes which showed various payment options. There is a 100% prepayment discount of \$24,837, and also an 80% prepayment option with a discount of \$19,000, and a 50% prepayment option with an \$11,000 discount. In addition, there were financing options that were presented and all the financing options included the 100% prepayment discount. The Board discussed the payment options. Supervisor Laureto reviewed the extra costs associated with each of the payment options showing that it would cost the Township considerably more than it would earn in interest. He stated that we currently have roughly \$850,000 in the Glen Arbor/ Empire Capital account and that doesn't reflect the additional \$195,000 that will be contributed this year and it also doesn't reflect the \$150,000 proceeds from the sale of the Heavy Rescue Truck.

Ferguson explained that if the Board decides to go forward, we will receive a contract from CSI. It will have a 100% performance bond. The payment made upfront is then held in an account until the truck is completed. Once we take possession of the truck, CSI will take possession of the funds. Ferguson said that we will have 30 days before we have to sign the contract. CSI is the dealer so they will place the order once the Board makes its decision. This will hold our place in line.

Motion D. Lewis, second, B. Hawley, to approve the purchase of a new fire truck for \$825,589 following the 100% prepayment option and to authorize the supervisor to sign the contract as long as it meets all the specifications presented. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Laureto stated that he felt there was a vary vigorous discussion at the ESAC meeting today regarding repairing the current truck or buying a used vehicle were discussed. He stated that delaying this decision would make the future purchase more expensive. He also believes that it was shown at the ESAC meeting that this truck will be a good mix with the current fleet of vehicles. Lewis asked about the stated \$0.00 value of the current truck and Ferguson said it likely won't pass its next DOT inspection and will likely be sold for salvage. Lewis also noted that the ESAC minutes stated that the new truck will help the ISO score and Ferguson responded that the larger water tank and better pump would contribute to a better score. Hawley asked about the truck that was sold for \$150,000. He also stated that he does not believe that inflation is going to get any better for a while. He believes that if we delay the decision, it will cost more money in the future. P. Laureto asked if she was correct in assuming that there was a significant increase in cost for the smaller size truck required to fit in the Empire Station than there would have been for the standard size truck and Ferguson responded yes but he didn't know how much of an increase. Supervisor Laureto called the question. **Roll call vote. Voting aye: B. Hawley, D. Lewis, P. Laureto, T. Laureto. Voting Ney: none. Motion carried 4:0.**

Public Comment: DePuy stated that the truck is not just a fire truck but it is also a rescue vehicle that will also go to automobile accidents. It's a universal piece of equipment that not only pumps water and carries hose but it also carries extrication and other types of equipment.

Meeting adjourned at 2:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Laureto
Township Clerk