

Special Meeting to discuss the purchase of ambulance equipment

PRESENT:

Sandra F. Brennan, Deputy Mayor	Marsha B. Merrick, Clerk/Treasurer
Bradley R. Hill, Trustee	Andrew Chanler, Fire Chief
Thomas J. LaGrou, Trustee (by phone)	Karen Dewar, Ambulance Captain
	Charles Parent, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Fire Chief

PUBLIC PRESENT:

None

1. MEETING OPENED:

Deputy Mayor Brennan opened the meeting at 8:10AM and stated that the news media was notified of the meeting, and notification was posted on the bulletin board. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Fire Chief's request to order an additional ambulance together with the first unit authorized for purchase on July 21, 2008.

2. ACQUISITION OF AN ADDITIONAL AMBULANCE:

Deputy Mayor Brennan stated that this meeting is not a 'jump' on the Fire Department or an attempt to make decisions that are better left up to them, but rather to clarify decisions made by the Board based on information that they had been given at the time. The bid notice that was posted in the newspaper and approved by Chief Chanler to Clerk Merrick stated one ambulance.

Trustee Hill stated that he took responsibility for the apparent lack of communication about the second ambulance. In checking meeting minutes from June 2, 2008, they stated that *the Department is ready to seek bids for a new ambulance* and Brad explained that in light of that and to be prudent, further discussion was warranted. He further stated that perhaps Trustee Fox understood the purchase better and perhaps he should be solely assigned to the fire department in the future. Sandy responded that perhaps some massaging had to be done with the committee setup of the Board; however the reason for the special meeting was to not hold up the process until the next Board meeting on August 4.

Chief Chanler stated that he might have talked to Trustee Fox about the second ambulance and that the entire process has been going on since 2007. Due to the fact that the process had drawn on so long, the timeframe for the second ambulance was closing in and to hasten the process, the bid specifications called for a price quote for another unit to be ordered in October 2008 and delivery set for July 2009. Ambulance Captain Dewar added that the build time for an ambulance is 6-7 months. Sandy stated that she did remember some conversation about this in the past few months. Karen stated that with three ambulances rotating, the mileage would not accumulate as fast as it has with only two operating. Andrew stated that even though the bids have come in and been partially accepted, there is still a build contract process to go through which delays the start date for building the units even further. Karen also stated that in order to receive more than one bid on an ambulance, writing the specifications is very difficult and time consuming.

Clerk Merrick mentioned the fact that there are rules and laws for purchasing not only made by the Village of Geneseo but also by the State of New York. They must be adhered to or questions abound from the Office of the State Comptroller. Sandy stated that Marsha had a point and that it was clear that department personnel had been thinking about this purchase for a while and it has been explained in indefinite ways. (The optional purchase of a second unit was outlined on the last page of the spec document.) Karen appealed to the Board members present that she did not want this to hold up the entire process.

Chief Chanler reiterated his stance that the PL Custom bid is in 100% compliance with the specifications based on review by FD member Steve Zabrocki.

The FD personnel left the meeting and Trustee LaGrou was reached by phone. Trustees Brennan and Hill explained what had transpired and Trustee Hill then moved to accept the bid from PL Custom Emergency Vehicles for the purchase of a 2009 Type III ambulance vehicle at a cost of \$162,998 and purchase of a second unit to be ordered by October 2, 2008 at a cost of \$152,998 reflecting trade-in values (of the 2000 Ford and the 2004 Ford respectively) for both vehicles after further review by FD officials who are comfortable with the bid and the supplier who was in 100% compliance with the specifications. Trustee LaGrou seconded the motion and the vote was as follows: Deputy Mayor Brennan-Aye, Trustee Hill-Aye, and Trustee LaGrou-Aye. The motion carried and Trustee Hill will notify Chief Chanler of the decision.

3. ALARM HORNS ON GENESEO BUILDING:

The Board discussed the reinstatement of the horns on the roof of the Geneseo Building with Chief Chanler (prior to his departure from the meeting) and reviewed a letter from a Second Street resident who liked the 'quiet summer' that has been experienced this year. Sandy assured Andrew that the Board in no way made a decision not to reinstate the horns at their July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

4. MEETING CLOSED:

With no other business to come before the Board, Trustee Hill moved and Trustee LaGrou seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05AM.

Marsha B. Merrick, Village Clerk