

## Okanogan County Fire District # 6

### MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

December 21st 2023

PRESENT: Chief Acord, Assistant Chief Stamps, Commissioner Milliken, Commissioner Palm, Commissioner Brandenburg, Secretary Mark Crum, General Fire sales representative, see attached list of attendees.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. ***Special meeting to discuss the purchase of a new District engine and open sealed bids.***

The District had bids open for 2 weeks and advertised per State regulations, 1 bid came back, from General Fire Apparatus in Spokane, WA.

Per the Districts specifications the bid from General Fire was \$853,421, before taxes. Chassis has to be paid within 12 months to get the set chassis price, delivery would be approximately 18 months after signed contract.

Commissioner Brandenburg asks the General Fire sales representative why he thinks he was the only bid, the representative stated that the truck isn't build prohibitive and says its a truck that's pretty standard to build. Says that other manufacturers can take as long as four years to build, might cost less, but don't have the same life expectancy as an engine purchased through General Fire and Rosenbauer.

Commissioner Milliken asks questions about hose lays on the new engine, and Chief Acord states that they'll be similar to District Engines.

Commissioner Brandenburg asks if General Fire has recently sold a similar engine, and Rep. states that they've sold a similar one to Moses Lake Fire, but slightly different configuration.

Discussion amongst board about warranty, in service date, and options included in the specification.

Commissioner Brandenburg asks General Fire Rep. what makes Rosenbauer / General Fire better than other options (not bidded). Representative states that they use open source parts, minimal proprietary parts, helping with keeping trucks in service and reasonable costs for repairs.

Commissioner Milliken asks the General Fire representative if the District were to purchase a smaller truck what would the approximate price difference be? Rep was reluctant to state an

exact cost difference, but stated that a similar truck with a 1000 gallon tank would cost over \$700,000.

### **Public Comment:**

John Lindsay (incoming 2024 commissioner) asks Chief Acord about the specifications and purpose of the new engine. Chief Acord replies that the engine will have good hose carrying capacity, fire fighting ability, ability to use as a tender in operations. Chief Acord also comments that the annual cost of the engine is built into the current budget, but it'll take more years to pay off.

Commissioner Milliken discusses the replacement schedule, and the effect this engine could have on it.

### **Motion to Purchase:**

Commissioner Brandenburg makes a motion to accept the bid from General Fire Apparatus to purchase the Rosenbauer engine for \$853,421, Commissioner Palm seconded, and Commissioner Milliken voted "Nay".

Commissioner Palm asked Commissioner Milliken to expand on his reasoning for the nay vote. Milliken responded that the cost of the truck, need for Firefighter turnout gear and other expenses were his reasoning.

### **Public Comment:**

Paul Sisson mentions the possibility of a levy lid lift. Sisson believes that the District can make a case for a lift, and states facts from other districts and how OCFD6 compares statewide. Sisson states that he thinks the public would support the lift and talks about retaining paid staff, and equipment purchases.

Commissioner Brandenburg believes that now is a bad time to go out for a levy lid lift.

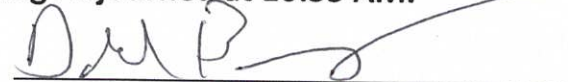
Comment from the audience about a levy lid lift and that the District could show the public the need and justification for it, encourages the board to work towards a levy lid lift for the future of the Fire District and the community.

Chief Acord states that needs are there.

John Lindsey comments on the positive relationship between General Fire and the Fire District and how it's worked well in the past.

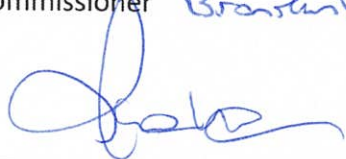
Commissioners and Chief Acord review the signature pages and change order policy from General Fire including costs.

**Meeting Adjourned at 10:55 AM.**



Commissioner *Brantley*

ATTEST:



Mark Crum, Secretary