

COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING: March 27, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Kerry Taylor, Council Robert Smestad Jr., Carolyn Brooks, Terrill Anderson, Randy Ebert

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Assistant Clerk Kristine De Boer, Utilities Supervisor Pete Hilgers, Parks & Street Supervisor Bruce Meuleners

OTHERS PRESENT:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. The Mayor called this special meeting because it was felt that there was a miscommunication by Smestad of his conversation with Public Works regarding the purchasing of the truck at last week's council meeting.

Public Works gave reasons why they thought purchasing a truck was needed:

CURRENT TRUCK AND PLOW

- 12 years old
- Has 26,000 forward miles – very hard use as it is used for plowing, much back and forth (going backwards is not calculated in mileage)
- Concern that turbo could break as this has been a repair with the City of Minnetrista in this type of truck. Cost of repair runs \$12-\$15,000.
- Because it is diesel it is not really meant for small city driving, they do have to take the truck for a drive (either to Mayer or Ox Yoke Inn) to clean the exhaust or there is a chance of damage.
- Electrical has gone out numerous times and been repaired.

OTHER

- Will not receive truck for 1-plus years. If delay to order next year, it would be 2026 before receiving replacement truck.
- At this time the trade-in value of current truck is very good, but there is no way to confirm what the trade-in value will be at time of a new truck delivery.
- The new plow can also be used on Public Works' (new) pickup truck if there is a breakdown.
- The C.I.P. was put together for a reason and the truck was up for replacement this year and there is money in the budget.
- Last year when both trucks broke down had to borrow from Minnetrista. Does not feel it looks good to the community to use another city's equipment for regular work. (Brooks did comment that it was great that we had that relationship to borrow from if needed)

Brooks did have a concern about purchasing a truck when we do not have the money in the account. It was explained that the truck will not have to be paid for until we take delivery. This will be next year after we receive all tax payments this year, which will increase the budget to the amount needed.

Smestad stated that he had asked Adm/Clk/Trs what the criteria is for replacement of the truck and he also asked Meuleners. Meuleners stated that it was on the CIP, and he did not know what the council's criteria was for placing it in this year's budget.

Smestad felt that you could buy a diesel turbo for \$2500 plus installation. Public Works disagreed because of the information they received from other contractors. Smestad also asked about the electrical, the bad connection with plow lights. Public Works stated that it happened again this week after plowing and the lights only work on high. It will have to be brought in again for repair. This was a slow winter, and there is a concern that if there is a heavier winter it will not work when needed. It is also the main truck used all year long.

Smestad stated that it seems as if the criteria for buying new is the concern of breaking down and the age of the current truck. Public Works did share that other cities do trade out their equipment every 7-8 years.

Smestad feels that if the truck is operable and it is not outrageously expensive to repair, he can't see spending \$100,000 on a new truck. Hilgers stated on a personal level he agrees, but on a business level feels that equipment should follow the C.I.P.

Motion made by Mayor Taylor and seconded by Ebert to approve the 2024 F450 Super Cab quote – the chassis from Morries Buffalo Ford for \$58,881.76. Aye 3/0 (No other response was received)

Motion made by Mayor Taylor and seconded by Anderson to approve the dump box including hoist, sander, and lights Towmaster quote for \$41,147. Aye 3/0, 2 Abstained Smestad, Brooks

Motion made by Mayor Taylor and seconded by Ebert to approve Perry's quote for the Boss Plow. Aye 4/0, 1 Abstained Smestad

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Taylor and seconded by Ebert to adjourn the meeting. All aye 5/0
6:20 pm

ATTEST:



Kristine DeBoer, Assistant Clerk