



Town of Windham


Fire - Rescue Department

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Deputy Chief Stanlee Emerson
Deputy Chief David Nichols
Deputy Chief John Wescott

Brent J. Libby, Fire-Rescue Chief

MEMORANDUM

To : Town Council
Through : Barry Tibbetts, Town Manager
From : Brent Libby, Fire-Rescue Chief 
Date : January 5, 2021
Re : Ambulance Purchase

In August of 2020 we convened an open truck committee to review and modify the specification to replace our 2010 Ambulance. The committee consisted of a cross section of the department. The committee met several times to review and update our 2016 specification to provide the department with a safe and functional ambulance. During the committee's work we were able to view demo ambulances from Road Rescue, Horton and Braun.

On November 3, 2020 our specification was posted on the town's website and sent out to five local vendors that are authorized dealerships for PL Custom, Horton, Road Rescue, Demers and Braun ambulance manufacturers. Four bids were received and opened publicly on December 1, 2020 in the Council Chambers at the Town Offices. We received proposals from PL Custom, Horton, Road Rescue and Braun, which the committee began reviewing.

With the four proposals in hand I began extracting some of the key components from our specification that relate directly to functionality, safety and quality. I placed those characteristics in a spreadsheet that would allow for comparison by vendor for each of those characteristics. Some of those items included but were not limited to; compartment sizes, patient compartment dimensions, patient compartment construction, corrosion protection and warranties.

With these items listed out we found that many of the manufacturers are using very similar and, in some cases, the same materials in the construction of their products. A significant difference that we noted was the process that each manufacturer uses to assemble their patient compartment.

The committee was sent the materials to review, after discussion and analysis the group came to a majority consensus to recommend the Braun ambulance.

The Braun ambulance the second lowest bidder and is the vendor we used for our last purchase. We budgeted \$201,554 in this year's capital budget from proceeds of our bond. Noting that all bids came in above the amount budgeted the cost to purchase this ambulance will not exceed \$210,000. A dif-

Ambulance Purchase
January 5, 2021

Page 2 of 2

ference that can be made up from the operating budget or unexpended funds from other capital projects. This purchase also includes the trade in of our 2010 Ambulance for a value of \$10,000, which is already deducted from the asking price.

The purchase of this vehicle will put our three ambulances under the same vender and will provide ease of operation for our crews as they will be as close to the same as possible. Additionally, as we move to remount our ambulance modules in the next round of replacement this will continue to ensure the ease of operation for the crews as we rotate the vehicles.

We have been very pleased with the proposal from Braun as well as the quality and service we have received from them since the purchase of our 2017 ambulances.

I believe our process has been thorough with a focus on financial prudence, future planning, reliability and functionality.

Thank you for your consideration.