

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Vermilion Township Board of Trustees' Special Meeting

Held Monday February 19th, 2024 at 8:00am

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Kurtz.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The roll call resulted as follows: Mr. Kenn Baughman, Mr. Robert Kurtz & Mr. Rodger Scott were present.

The purpose of this meeting is to consider the purchase of a 2018 International 4300 Crew Cab Medium Duty Braun Ambulance at the recommendation of the Fire Chief using available American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds.

Vermilion Township Fire Chief Frank Triana stated he found a 2018 International (ambulance) with a Braun box, similar to 811 squad. It has 73,000 miles, a diesel engine and automatic transmission. The sales person stated it came in clean. Triana's intent was to get a deposit down on the truck. It is the only one of this age & of this style right now that is available. These do not sit very long. Triana continued saying this would be a replacement for 812 and it would go into the rotation. There would be a 3-Truck rotation from month to month to month. Should one of the trucks fail or need attention, the reserve truck would come into service. Triana explained "The truck that was purchased in 2018 already has 44,000 miles. It's getting used every day. It doesn't go out for every call, but there are days when we go to 2-4 calls in a row. Extra personnel are sent out in a secondary squad. The whole idea of rotation is to keep those extra ten to fifteen miles off of the truck. The price is fair. The quote includes the refurbished power load system, the department has the power cots." "The vendor has someone that would do the lettering and striping. The cost is around \$4,500.00. The Lettering would include 'Vermilion Township', the unit number and '911'"

Vermilion Township Administrator Keith Sexton asked for consideration of the following:

Resolution #R2402-09. This resolution would authorize the expenditure from the American Rescue Plan Act funds. The Township received the funds from the Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Resolution #R2402-10. This resolution would authorize a specific expenditure from the American Rescue Act Funds. Under the guidelines of the US Department of Treasury and the final rule on page 14, ambulances are considered an eligible use of this fund.

Resolution #2402-11. This emergency resolution is to approve the purchase of a 2018 International 4300 Crew Cab Medium Duty Braun Ambulance from Global Emergency Vehicles, 1991 Hartle Avenue, Levittown, Pennsylvania 19057.

The equipment owned by the Township is well past its useful life. A replacement ambulance has been desperately needed for quite some time. The 2018 4300 Crew Cab, medium duty Braun diesel powered ambulance 2651 with installed, refurbished power load has passed a 125-point comprehensive inspection. Global Emergency Vehicles has spent a lot of time and effort in order to make sure emergency vehicles are 100% both mechanically and cosmetically approved. The current mileage on this vehicle 73,654. The total cost of this expenditure is \$125,500.00. Plus, shipping costs are about \$2.00 a mile. This expenditure would be fully funded through the American Rescue Plan Acts Fund. This is time sensitive.

Kurtz asked about the life expectancy of this type of vehicle. Triana responded It's dictated on run volume and what is budgeted for replacements. 43,000 miles after five years makes it a fifteen-to-eighteen-year truck depending on how it is cycled through. The township would be very fortunate, as one of three fire departments to have a third squad. The fire department has had to borrow a squad from Perkins Fire. Perkins Fire has borrowed one of Vermilion Township's trucks, when they have had two of their squads go down. Triana says this truck would last fifteen-to-eighteen-years.

Kurtz asked the year of the E350. Triana responded it is a 2003, that was bought from North Central EMS in 2008, with 133,000 or 143,000 miles. "The intention of buying that truck was to haul equipment, hoses and personnel. There was a lot of equipment on the ground that had to get back and cleaned up. That was the sole purpose of that truck. The truck got pressed into service in 2018 when the department started transporting patients. You don't want to put a whole lot of money into it because it is old, it's ailing. It would be a good work truck for somebody that had a construction business and wanted to use that as a large tool box. As far as reliability for fire and EMS service, it is long overdue."

Kurtz asked the cost for a brand new International 4300 with the crew cab. Triana responded new squads are \$480,000.00, more with a crew cab. (The one being considered) is an extended cab. The extended cab gives more options. "With the upcoming eclipse, the department will need to be staffed because the whole county is going to be in the same situation. A call for mutual aid, better really be needed. Things could get stacked up and diverted from hospitals if they are busy. We get diverted a lot from Mercy and get sent to UH, those are added miles. Traffic being a major concern for the Township as well as the entire county and surrounding areas because we are right in the path of that event. Summertime is a lot busier in the Township, because of the beaches and all the fun things happening on the weekends. The larger cab will allow us to do more with it and be a little more flexible with it. We may elect to put that frontline all the time, depending on what we see coming through. During the winter months we take the 2018 Ford. It's got 4-wheel drive. Braun's are larger, heavier trucks and are definitely an advantage in poor weather. Kind of like having 4-wheel drive without having 4-wheel drive. They (GEV) go through 125-point inspection. The truck will go to the mechanic to take care of any issues now, versus having to pay for it down the road. It's not going to be without issues, but it's not \$480,000 or \$500,000 either. It's a \$102,000 truck."

Baughman commented that at the Ohio Township Association (OTA) Trade Show, a smaller two-seater basic version, brand new was \$350,000.00 to \$450,000.00. "Half a million dollars is not unrealistic for a new rig."

Scott stated he would like a surveyor to look at it and asked how much that would cost. "Anytime I see anybody spent over \$10,000 they usually get a surveyor."

Kurtz noted the concern is that vehicles don't last long. If a move is not made to at least authorize the purchase, they'll be gone. "And I gave that consideration myself. The fact that I know that it went through a 125-point inspection. I know it's already been looked through. I know Global Emergency Vehicles isn't going to sell something that they don't feel works." "It is a used vehicle, you can expect that you might have to put \$1,000.00 in here and there." "Getting it for \$102,000.00 and even if you have to spend a couple thousand dollars fixing something on it, you're still way better than spending almost a half-a-million on a vehicle."

Scott stated "Well, I totally agree with you. I think it's a good deal. But I just say I like to see a surveyor look at it, somebody independent. That's my only point."

Kurtz commented "We can get one (inspection) once we get it here, if you're OK with that." Kurtz asked Triana about a third-party inspection, perhaps from the International dealership in Norwalk.

Scott said "Or if you want to go down (to the dealership) and try it out and see what you think."

Triana replied to get it locked in with the \$31,000 deposit. Put it on hold, look at it, then make that decision.

Kurtz remarked "Even if we move forward with these resolutions today, you're still going to do your due diligence. At least this gives you the authorization to make the down payment, to check it out. If you're not comfortable, don't make the purchase."

Triana replied "There is no sense of me going down there if we are not going to try to hold it first. And then get a phone call on the way home that GEV had just sold it, wasting 5 hours of my time."

Baughman stated "Correct me if I am wrong, we have insurance on all of our vehicles through OTARMA. If there is a catastrophic failure with a vehicle our insurance would cover it. Even if we buy a lemon, as they say, we've got the insurance that will cover it. And it is a heck of a deal. I think the right idea is to put the down payment, if he is comfortable buying it that day, we don't have to come back again. We could add \$10,000.00 to the purchase price to cover mileage & lettering."

Triana responded "If we are going to make the purchase, they've got a vendor there that does the lettering, you might as well do it right there. And I can see the photos, so I know if it is right or wrong."

Kurtz introduced the following resolution and moved it forward. Resolution #R2402-09 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXPENDITURE FROM AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS (ARPA). Now therefore be it resolved that the Vermilion Township Board of Trustees' elects to use the standard allowance and its presumption of revenue loss due to the public health emergency and to use the amount authorized herein to fund government services. Baughman seconded the resolution. Baughman, Kurtz & Scott voted to accept the resolution. **#R2402-09**

Kurtz introduced the following resolution and moved it forward. Resolution #R2402-10 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SPECIFIC EXPENDITURES FROM AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS (ARPA). Now therefore be it resolved by the Board that:

1. The Township elected to use the standard allowance by way of Resolution R2402-09 and its presumption of revenue loss due to the public health emergency and to use the amount herein to fund government services.
2. This Project is hereby authorized and shall be paid for from the ARPA Funds in the amount of:
 - a. Global Emergency Vehicles in the amount not to exceed \$135,500.00.
3. The Project described herein serves the objectives of the Act by providing services traditionally provided by a government, namely:
 - a. Fire and Emergency Medical Services.
4. Accordingly, the Project is in the best interest of the Township and is deemed a priority for the community.
5. No obligations paid under the authority of this Resolution were incurred prior to March 3, 2021.

Baughman seconded the resolution. Baughman, Kurtz & Scott voted to accept the resolution. **#R2402-10.**

Kurtz introduced the following resolution and moved it forward. Resolution #R2402-11 AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF A 2018 INTERNATIONAL 4300 CREW CAB MEDIUM DUTY BRAUN AMBULANCE. Now therefore be it resolved, the Vermilion Township Board of Trustees approves the purchase of the 2018 International 4300 Crew Cab Medium Duty Braun Ambulance, VIN #1HTMNMML4JH756502, from Global Emergency Vehicles, 1991 Hartel Avenue, Levittown, PA 19057 for the vehicle purchase price of \$102,750.00, the installation of a Powerload Cot System (cot not included) at a cost of \$22,750.00, and vehicle lettering, delivery, & inspections at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.00 for a total purchase price not to exceed \$135,500.00. Baughman seconded as amended: not to exceed \$135,500.00. Baughman, Kurtz & Scott voted to accept the resolution. **#R2402-11**. Effective immediately.

Kurtz remarked "Chief, this gives you the ability to get the down payment down, check the vehicle out. If you are comfortable, make the purchase. Once we get it here, take it to International in Norwalk or someplace to have a complete survey done, to see what we have going on with it."

Baughman clarified that's where the \$10,000.00 would also come in. Kurtz confirmed.

Kurtz asked if there was anything else to come before the board.

Upon hearing no comments, the board adjourned at 8:30am.