



STAFF REPORT

Subject: 1-Ton Cab and Chassis Purchase

Department/Program: Public Works/ Support Services

Explanation: Public Works has two 1-ton vehicles budgeted for 2023, for a total of \$240,000.

Normally these trucks are purchased off of the State bid, or through a sealed bid process to local dealers. In recent years, however, both of these avenues have been unavailable to us due to the shortage of available trucks.

This year for the state bid, MoDOT could not get any firm fixed pricing from vendors or guaranteed availability of trucks; therefore, they have taken a different approach. They issued a Statewide Motor Vehicles Qualified Vendors List (QVL) rather than individual contracts for specific makes/models. This process requires you to submit a form with your truck specifications, and a dealer can respond with any price they wish and only if they have a truck available. There are no guarantees.

Local dealers that we have spoken to do not have any trucks available or require a lead time on the purchase of over one year.

Given these limitations, staff is seeking authority from the Board to purchase the two budgeted vehicles from any source that becomes available, not to exceed the budgeted amount of \$75,000 for each cab and chassis and with the approval of the City Administrator. Sometimes trucks become available at the last minute due to customers cancelling orders or other extenuating circumstances. When those trucks do become available, time is a significant factor because there are many other agencies similar to us also looking for vehicles. By giving staff pre-authorization to purchase up to the budgeted amount, it will allow us the opportunity to quickly purchase trucks should any become available.

This request is for the cab and chassis only. Staff will come back to the board at a later date for the approval of the body/bed and snow equipment (those are more readily available) and an update on the final cost of the vehicle.

It is worth noting that City staff is also having difficulty sourcing police vehicles and a parks truck this year as well, so this same approach may make sense for those purchases as well.

Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board of Alderman authorize staff to purchase two 1-ton trucks (cab and chassis) for an amount not to exceed \$75,000 per vehicle, should they become available.

Submitted By: Jim Link

Date: February 2, 2023