

Memorandum



Date: October 21, 2026

To: Buchanan City Commission

From: Tony McGhee

Subject: Purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus

Background

As has been discussed with the City Commission during the past two budget cycles, the City has been working to address years of deferred equipment purchases within the Buchanan Fire Department. Much of the department's equipment has exceeded its expected useful life, creating a situation where the City is now faced with making significant investments to replace equipment that is essential to the safety of our firefighters and the department's ability to respond to emergencies.

Last fiscal year, the City began addressing these needs through a more deliberate equipment replacement program, which included the purchase of five new SCBA units. As part of this year's budget process, an additional ten units were budgeted to continue replacing the department's aging equipment. The purchase

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, commonly referred to as SCBA, is one of the most important pieces of personal protective equipment used by firefighters. These are the air packs firefighters wear on their backs when entering burning buildings or other environments where the air may contain smoke, toxic gases, or insufficient oxygen to breathe safely.

As with other public safety equipment, SCBA units have a finite service life and require ongoing inspection, maintenance, and replacement. Continuing to rely on equipment that has exceeded its useful life creates unnecessary risks and increases the potential for equipment failures at the very time firefighters need it most.

Initially, the City had anticipated spreading the remaining SCBA purchases over two fiscal years to help manage the financial impact. However, during the budget development process, staff learned of a projected 20% increase in the cost of these units. Given that the existing equipment has already exceeded its useful life and replacement is a necessary

and unavoidable expense, staff determined that accelerating the purchases into the current fiscal year would be the more financially responsible approach.

Rather than delaying a portion of the purchase and paying an anticipated 20% more for essentially the same equipment in a future budget year, the City included funding in the current budget to complete the replacement of the remaining units. This approach allows us to address an important firefighter safety need while avoiding a projected cost increase on equipment we know will need to be purchased regardless.

Recommendation

This purchase represents a continuation of the City's broader efforts to systematically address deferred equipment and capital needs across the organization.

One of the challenges we continue to face is that postponing necessary purchases does not eliminate the expense. In many cases, it simply increases the eventual cost while requiring staff to continue operating equipment that should have been replaced years earlier.

This is particularly important given the number of other capital and equipment needs facing the City. Every dollar we can avoid spending unnecessarily on future replacement costs is a dollar that remains available to help address another need. By making this purchase during the current fiscal year, the City can address an important equipment need while avoiding a projected increase in future replacement costs. This is consistent with our ongoing efforts to make financially responsible decisions while systematically addressing years of deferred capital and equipment investment.

Staff recommends that the Buchanan City Commission approve the purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) equipment and associated accessories from MacQueen Equipment in an amount not to exceed \$97,253.25, as outlined in the attached proposal. The FY26/27 budget contains \$100,000 for the proposed purchase.

Attachment A





PARTS ESTIMATE

LOCATION:

Delafield
350 Austin Circle
Delafield WI 53018 US

ESTIMATE #:	EST12050
CUSTOMER PO:	
SALES REP:	E095367 John Godush
DATE:	9/29/2026
EXPIRES:	10/28/2026
ESTIMATE TOTAL:	97,253.25

BILL TO:

Pat Fellows/BCFD
Buchanan MI, City of Fire Department
302 N Redbud Trail
Buchanan MI 49107
United States

SHIP TO:

Pat Fellows/BCFD
Buchanan MI, City of Fire Department
302 N Redbud Trail
Buchanan MI 49107
United States

OFFICE PHONE: (269) 355-7876

EMAIL:

madams@cityofbuchanan.com

CONTACT INFO:

Name:

Email:

SHIPPING METHOD:

PART #	DESCRIPTION	UOM	QTY	PRICE	E X T . PRICE
MSA-10148741-SP	Battery Pack, G1, Rechargeable	Ea	5	500.00	2,500.00
MSA-10158385	KIT, CHARGING STATION, G1		1	960.00	960.00
MSA-10161810	Fcpc,G1,FS,MD,MD NC, 4PT KEVLR,C-N,W/BOX	Ea	2	500.00	1,000.00
RCC-34616-2K	MQ FP BAG & TAG	Ea	2	0.00	0.00
MSA-A-G1FS444MA2C2LAR	MSA G1 SCBA – 4500 PSI, Quick Connect, Serviceable Tunnel, Metal Band, Adjustable Swivel Lumbar, Solid Cover Left, Continuous, Extendaire II, Speaker Left Chest, PASS Right Shoulder, Rechargeable Batter	Ea	8	8,567.00	68,536.00
MSA-10175708	CYL VLV QC G1 RC 4500 PSIG 66CF LP PKGD	Ea	8	1,640.00	13,120.00
MSA-10175708	CYL VLV QC G1 RC 4500 PSIG 66CF LP PKGD	Ea	8	0.00	0.00
MSA-10083875	TAG ASSY, ELECTRONIC ID, M7/G1 SCBA	Ea	13	76.25	991.25
MSA-10162403	Adapter Assy, QC to 1/4 NPT F, 5000 psig		1	705.00	705.00
MSA-10206311	RIT,G1,TC,QF,GAUGE,QA BYPASS,UEBSS,4500		1	6,620.00	6,620.00
MSA-10158407	Kit, RFID Reader/Writer, G1		1	1,020.00	1,020.00
MSA-10156426-SP	CYL. ASSY, G1, RC, 4500 PSIG, 60MIN,PKG		1	1,801.00	1,801.00

CUSTOMER MEMO:

QUOTE EXPRIES 10/28 2P EST

TOTAL PARTS:	\$97,253.25
OTHER CHARGES:	\$0.00
DISCOUNT AMOUNT:	0.00
SUBTOTAL:	97,253.25
TAX TOTAL:	\$0.00
SHIPPING TOTAL:	0.00
HANDLING TOTAL:	0.00
ESTIMATE TOTAL:	\$ 97,253.25