



City of Eustis

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TO: EUSTIS CITY COMMISSION

FROM: TOM CARRINO, CITY MANAGER

DATE: JANUARY 22, 2026

RE: Resolution Number 26-11: Approval of Purchase of Pumper Truck

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends replacing Engine 22 with a new Pierce stock pumper to ensure operational reliability, firefighter safety, and continued compliance with industry standards. Engine 22 has reached the end of its effective service life, resulting in increased maintenance costs and reduced reliability. The proposed purchase will modernize the fleet while leveraging the trade-in value of Engine 22 to reduce the overall financial impact or fund critical new equipment.

Background:

Engine 22 is a reserve pumper that has exceeded its recommended service life as outlined by NFPA 1901 and industry best practices. As apparatus age, maintenance demands increase, parts availability becomes more limited, and the risk of out-of-service time rises. Fire apparatus reliability is critical to emergency response, firefighter safety, and community risk reduction.

Pierce Manufacturing is a nationally recognized fire apparatus manufacturer with a proven track record for durability, safety, and long-term support. Standardizing the fleet with Pierce apparatus also supports consistency in training, maintenance, and parts inventory.

The Fire Department will be able to better serve the citizens with the purchase of this apparatus. Staffing levels will increase April 1, 2026 which will allow the Fire Department to staff 3 suppression apparatus when staffing levels are at 10 Firefighters working on the day.

Operational Need

- Replacement of Engine 22 ensures uninterrupted frontline response capability.
- New apparatus improves safety features, pump reliability, and compliance with current standards.
- Modern design enhances ergonomics, visibility, and efficiency during emergency operations.

Financial Considerations

- The purchase price shall not exceed \$1,050,000.00.
- The trade-in of Engine 22 will reduce the net purchase cost.
- Alternatively, trade-in proceeds may be applied toward the purchase of new fire equipment (hose, tools, radios, or other mission-critical items), reducing future capital or operating expenditures.
- A new apparatus will reduce maintenance and repair costs associated with an aging engine.

Lifecycle and Cost Avoidance

- Reduced downtime increases unit availability and operational readiness.
- Warranty coverage limits near-term repair expenses and improves budget predictability.

Funding Source

Funding will be provided through approved capital improvement funds, apparatus replacement reserves, or other lawfully available funding sources as authorized in the adopted budget. Trade-in value from Engine 22 will be applied as outlined above to offset costs.

Impact on Service Levels

Approval of this purchase will increase service levels, improve response reliability, and enhance firefighter safety. Failure to replace Engine 22 increases the risk of mechanical failure and extended out-of-service time, potentially impacting emergency response.

Conclusion

The replacement of Engine 22 with a new Pierce pumper is a prudent investment in public safety, firefighter welfare, and long-term fiscal responsibility. Utilizing the trade-in value provides additional cost savings or allows for the acquisition of essential equipment. Staff recommends approval as presented.

Financial Impact:

The FY25-26 cost will be \$1,050,000.00. Current year's cost will be paid from the Sales Tax Fund.

Prepared by:

Shawn Kelleher, Deputy Fire Chief, Eustis Fire Department

Reviewed by:

Miranda Burrowes, Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

Resolution Number 26-11

Exhibit A to Resolution Number 26-11