

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: January 14, 2025

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

Through: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

From: Robert Grabowski, Fire Chief

Topic: Purchase Contract - 2029 Pierce Enforcer - Fire Engine

PURPOSE

Staff is requesting the Village Board approve an ordinance waiving competitive bidding requirements and a purchase agreement to acquire one (1) Pierce Enforcer Fire Engine, from MacQueen Emergency Group of Saint Paul, MN.

PROCESS

In 2009, the Fire Department implemented a vehicle replacement schedule, which has been followed with only minor adjustments over the years. This schedule has allowed the department to reduce its fleet size and establish a robust maintenance program. Today, the Fire Department operates a fleet that includes two (2) front line ambulances, one (1) back up ambulance, one (1) front line engine, one (1) backup engine, one (1) front line ladder truck, a shift commander car, two (2) Chief vehicles, and a utility pickup truck. The Fire Department also adopted Pierce Manufacturing (an Oshkosh Corporation) as their standardized fire apparatus manufacturer.

Earlier this year, the Fire Department created a specification committee to put together the actual “spec” material for the new fire engine, which would replace the 2004 engine. This committee consisted of Deputy Chief Steve DeJong, Captain Jason Presnak, Lieutenant Ryan Schneider, and Firefighter/Paramedics Dave Vitolka and Kyle Paczesny. The committee completed the work and recommends the Pierce Enforcer with all of the standard NFPA equipment requirements in addition to the design that meets the department’s needs. This vehicle meets the consortium pricing of the Houston – Galveston Area Council (HGAC).

Although the 2004 engine is not scheduled for replacement until 2029, the lead time for delivery of a new fire engine is between **48-51** months (4 years). After discussions with staff, the department feels it is best to order this vehicle now in order to lock in the 2025 price, avoiding future price increases. Since 2021, all manufacturers have consistently increased their vehicle prices on average by 20% or more per year. For example, the last engine Homewood purchased in 2019, was ordered in 2017, and cost just under \$600,000.

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The Village received a purchase agreement of **\$1,385,000** through the Houston-Galveston Area Council, a government joint purchasing program, for a Pierce Enforcer HDR Pumper (vehicle) from MacQueen Emergency Group of Saint Paul, MN, the sales representative for Pierce Manufacturing.

Pre-Purchase/Future Delivery

Section 11-61-3 of the Illinois Municipal Code authorizes municipalities with less than 1,000,000 population to purchase personal property for public purposes by making installment payment(s) for a period of time less than 20 years. The purchase agreement provided by the vendor calls for a single installment payment of \$1,385,000 upon delivery of the engine in **2029**.

At this time, staff anticipates that future bond proceeds and grant funding will be used to fund the purchase in 2029; however, an alternative funding source, such as a lease program, may be identified.

Grant Funding Offsetting Purchase Cost

In 2021, \$200,000 was appropriated by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to the Village to assist with the purchase of a new engine. Because the grant is a reimbursement grant, the Village must expend the amount of \$200,000 once the vehicle has been purchased and is in our possession, then be reimbursed by DCEO.



Current 2004 Fire Engine

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Example of the new Pierce Enforcer Model

OUTCOME

Purchasing the new fire engine now will secure the 2025 pricing and avoid potential future price increases. This proactive approach will also ensure timely delivery of the fire engine while meeting the desired specifications.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:** Anticipated use of 2027 Bond Proceeds and DCEO Grant funds
- **Budgeted Amount:** Will be budgeted in future fiscal year
- **Cost:** \$1,385,000

LEGAL REVIEW

Completed

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Pass an ordinance waiving competitive bid requirements due to standardization of equipment; and, approving a purchase agreement for one (1) Pierce Enforcer Fire Engine in the amount of \$1,385,000 through the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Consortium to be delivered in 2029.

ATTACHMENT(S)

- Ordinance
- Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Schedule