

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 6, 2024
TO: Melissa R. Marsh, City Manager
FROM: Sean P. Ballantine, Director of Public Services
SUBJECT: Scheduled Replacement of Vehicle 119

The FY 2024-2025 Budget includes funding carried-forward for the replacement of Vehicle 119, the Animal Control van. Despite the best efforts of staff, a replacement van has been impossible to source due to the ongoing supply issues from General Motors. Current estimates remain over a year out for the next ordering window to open, with no guarantees that a van will be furnished to the dealership. The preference is to replace the current GMC Savana van with a like-for-like model, due to the existing cages and equipment being designed for this type of van. It is worth noting that equivalent units, such as the Ford Transit, or Ram ProMaster City are also unavailable to source, and significantly more expensive. The existing animal control van has reached a point of imminent failure, requiring immediate replacement.

Given our inability to currently source a new unit, Staff has evaluated a variety of options, and determined that the most logical solution is to replace van 119 with one of the water and sewer service vans. Although these vehicles are roughly the same age, the water and sewer vans have almost half the miles on them, and are in better shape both physically and mechanically. It is estimated that this will comfortably buy us 3-5 years of reliable operation, allowing us to budget for and source a new animal control van when a unit finally becomes available. Replacing the water and sewer van, the Water and Sewer coordinator has determined that his department will be better served with a mid-size pickup truck. Staff has been notified by our Ford dealer of the availability of a Maverick, which fits these criteria, and falls within the currently budgeted amount for the animal control van.

Staff therefore requests that Council consider the following motions:

To “sell” Van 461 from the Water and Sewer fund to the General Fund for its fully depreciated value of \$2,308.09, by transferring this amount from account 101-301-985-0000 to account 592-047-626-6950.

To approve a budget amendment of \$31,832 to account 592-901-985-0000. This represents the \$30,332 price of the truck, plus \$1,500 for the safety lighting and other equipment.

Department of Public Services

City of Madison Heights
801 Ajax Drive
Madison Heights, Michigan 48071

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To approve the purchase of one Ford Maverick as specified to Lunghamer Ford, of Owosso, in the amount of \$30,332, through the MiDeal vehicle purchasing program.

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