

Fire Department Memorandum

To: Daniel Buchholtz, City Administrator, City of Spring Lake Park
Nyle Zikmund City Administrator, City of Mounds View
Michelle Wolfe, City Manager, City of Blaine

From: Dan Retka, Fire Chief

Date: May 15, 2025

Re: New Engine & Rescue Purchase

As outlined in the SBM Capital Improvement Plan, staff intend to replace an aging fire engine and one rescue truck. Both apparatuses have reached the end of their NFPA recommended service life and will be replaced with modern, more reliable units that align with our current and future operational needs.

In conjunction with the planned replacements, SBM has significantly reduced the overall Capital Improvement Plan to more than \$2.5 million over the next five years. These adjustments reflect our commitment to fiscal responsibility and are designed to better align with our current and future operational demands. The revised plan prioritizes essential resources while maintaining a sustainable capital investment strategy.

Due to extended lead times and projected cost increases, we request authorization to place both orders now. The current lead time for the new engine is greater than 30 months, and the rescue is 7 months. Payment for both trucks will be due at the time of delivery. By placing the orders now, we are locking in current pricing and securing a production spot to ensure timely delivery.

SBM staff has developed detailed specifications and received quotes from three manufacturers. After a thorough evaluation, E-ONE has been selected to build both trucks. We are leveraging the HGAC purchasing consortium to ensure a streamlined procurement process that is both cost-effective and compliant with public purchasing requirements.

- The Capital Plan budgeted \$1,075,000 for the replacement engine. The current quote for E-ONE is \$975,000, resulting in savings of \$100,000. However, if the order is delayed, a projected 12% price increase would raise the cost by approximately \$1,092,000, exceeding the budgeted amount.
- The budgeted amount for the rescue truck is \$430,000. The current quoted price is \$422,000, which is within budget. However, projected increases would bring the truck to \$472,640, exceeding the approved allocation.

We believe placing the orders now is both financially prudent and operationally necessary.

I appreciate your consideration,
Chief Retka

