

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-14

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO DISPOSE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, SPECIFICALLY A 1992 PIERCE ARROW FIRE ENGINE, TO AN ALASKA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OR AGENCY THEREOF

WHEREAS, Unalaska Code of Ordinances (UCO) § 7.20.010(B) allows for the disposal of City of Unalaska surplus property, with a value of less than \$25,000, that is no longer needed for municipal purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety has a 1992 Pierce Arrow Fire Engine that is determined to be surplus property and is no longer needed for municipal purposes; and

WHEREAS, the 1992 Pierce Arrow Fire Engine is a special purpose vehicle, with few other applications than as an emergency fire response vehicle; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the value of this fire engine is less than \$25,000; and

WHEREAS, UCO § 7.20.010(B) states in part: personal property no longer needed for municipal purposes shall be disposed of in one or more of the following manner; (1) by public outcry auction to the highest bidder, (2) by public sealed auction to the highest bidder, (3) to the best qualified proposal who responds to a request for proposal to acquire property, (4) to an educational, religious, charitable, or non-profit association or corporation providing services to Unalaska citizens, (5) to the United States, the State of Alaska or an Alaska municipal corporation or any agency or department thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety shall notify other Alaska communities that the 1992 Pierce Arrow Fire Engine is being disposed of by the City of Unalaska. Public Safety shall solicit letters of interest, asking that any interested parties detail their specific need and their understanding that they would pay for all shipping costs; and

WHEREAS, the letters of interest will be reviewed and a scoring matrix will be applied in order to select which interested party would receive the fire engine; and

WHEREAS, the selected party be responsible for all shipping costs.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Unalaska City Council authorizes the City Manager to dispose of city personal property, specifically a surplus 1992 Pierce Arrow Fire Engine, to an Alaska municipal corporation or agency thereof.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on February 27, 2018.



Frank Kelty
Mayor

ATTEST:



Marjie Veeder
City Clerk



MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

TO: Mayor and City Council Members
FROM: Jennifer Shockley, Acting Director Department of Public Safety
THROUGH: Erin Reinders, Interim City Manager
DATE: February 27, 2018
RE: Resolution 2018-14 – A Resolution of the Unalaska City Council Authorizing the City Manager to dispose of personal property, specifically a 1992 Pierce Arrow Fire Engine, to an Alaska Municipal Corporation or agency thereof

SUMMARY: The City recently acquired a new Fire Engine for service in Unalaska and delivery is expected within the next month or so. Once the new engine is delivered to Unalaska, Resolution 2018-14 will authorize the City to dispose of the engine it is replacing, a 1992 Pierce Arrow Fire Engine, to an Alaska Municipal Corporation or agency, as allowed for in the Unalaska Code of Ordinances.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Council addressed Resolution 2018-14 at the February 13, 2018 Council meeting, and requested additional information regarding the possibility of keeping the 1992 Pierce Arrow Fire Engine as reserve apparatus rather than disposing of the surplus specialty fire department apparatus as in the past.

BACKGROUND: In 2016 the council authorized the disposal of a 1999 surplus ambulance to a nearby community. The surplus ambulance was awarded to Chignik after they demonstrated a specific need through a letter of interest and the application of a scoring matrix. Chignik was responsible for paying the cost of shipping the ambulance to their community. Other specialty Fire/EMS apparatus have been similarly disposed of in previous years.

DISCUSSION: The Department of Public Safety has two stations, the shared Public Safety building at 29 Safety Way and the single-use Amaknak Fire Hall. These two buildings have a total of seven large bays, six of which are used for Fire/EMS apparatus and the seventh of which is dedicated to criminal evidence processing and storage for the Patrol division. The Fire/EMS division currently stores all primary apparatus – two ambulances, a ladder truck, two pumpers and an equipment truck+trailer – inside these bays. Fire and EMS apparatus are designed to be kept indoors and on a constant trickle charge to ensure all equipment is maintained in a response-ready state – the motor, component parts, and passenger compartments are at room temperature and emergency responses need not be held up by lengthy engine warm-ups or defrosting. Indoor storage for the apparatus achieves other financial and operational benefits: It vastly reduces wear and tear on the apparatus, reducing the amount of time and money spent on maintenance and ensuring that the apparatus is out-of-service for the least amount of time.

Keeping the 1992 Pierce Fire Engine as reserve apparatus has merit if the apparatus can be kept in a controlled environment, plugged in to electrical power, and stored in such a way that personnel can easily check battery levels, exercise valves, and ensure that all onboard equipment is operational. However, there is no available indoor, warm storage for apparatus of

this size, at DPS or at any other City facility. Being stored outside means personnel would need to keep the engine cleared of snow and ice at all times in order to maintain it in a response-ready state; even when cleared of snow and ice it would still take 15 – 20 minutes to warm up the engine and fill the brake air tanks. Water in the tanks and pumps could freeze in winter, rendering the engine useless for a fire response. Mechanical controls and electrical connections may seize up and/or deteriorate, and, depending where the engine is parked, ravens, rats and eagles may damage equipment intended for life-saving, all of which increases both the maintenance and personnel costs involved in keeping the engine in a state of readiness. As an example, the ambulance which was donated in 2016 was briefly stored outside, awaiting shipment to another community. After only three months of outdoor storage, the brakes had locked up from rust and the batteries were drained. The cost of maintaining this apparatus in 2016-2017 included approximately \$4,000 in DPW parts and labor, and approximately \$7,000 in DPS labor; it can be assumed these costs would increase considerably if the apparatus were stored outside.

The City of Unalaska currently has an ISO rating of Class 04/4X, achieved with an earned credit of 63.89. While the addition of a reserve engine would in fact increase the City's earned credit, it would increase by only .5, for a total earned credit of 64.39. Our rating would remain at Class 04/4X.

ALTERNATIVES: Request a motion to adopt Resolution 2018-14; dispose of the surplus engine through the auction process; re-purpose the vehicle for other City use; or maintain the 1992 Pierce Fire Engine in an outdoor location.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: None if the engine is disposed of as previously outlined, as the cost for shipping would be borne by the community awarded the engine. If the engine is kept as a reserve, there will be considerable equipment and personnel costs associated with maintaining it in a response-ready condition.

LEGAL: None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Council move quickly to approve the disposal of the 1992 Pierce Engine through the process outlined. Shipping a significantly deteriorated apparatus to a neighboring community reflects poorly on the City of Unalaska and the Department of Public Safety.

PROPOSED MOTION: Request a motion to adopt Resolution 2018-14, allowing the City Manager to dispose of the 1992 Pierce Engine to an Alaska municipal corporation or agency thereof that demonstrates the highest need, which will be established through a letter of interest and the application of a scoring matrix.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS: I support adoption of Resolution 2018-14. The City's previous practice to surplus specialty equipment in this manner has been very helpful to other communities in our region.

