

ITEM #: 14
 DATE: 03-12-24
 DEPT: FLEET

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: FLEET REPLACEMENT PROGRAM - TWO TRUCK CHASSIS WITH CREW CAB

BACKGROUND:

The City’s Fire Department has two response rescue trucks used to support the Fire Department during most emergencies. These two trucks are equipped with tactical equipment not carried on other fire trucks. The Ames Fire Department staff has evaluated the use of these two trucks. Their evaluation determined the new trucks should be smaller than the department’s existing response trucks and capable of off-road terrain. **This change will reduce the cost of the response rescue trucks significantly and provide a broader range of response capabilities for the community.** These essential trucks are scheduled for replacement in the 2023/24 fiscal year. The new replacement trucks are to be equipped with four-wheel-drive, dual rear wheels, and a service body designed to provide easy access to critical tools and equipment.

Specifications for the solicitation of bids are currently being developed for the service bodies, emergency lighting, graphics, and accessories for these two new chassis.

Bids for **two truck chassis** were received on February 9, 2024, as follows:

BIDDER	MAKE	MODEL	YEAR	TOTAL FOR 2 CHASIS
Stiver's Ford of Waukee, IA	Ford	F350	2024	\$ 105,996.00
Deery Brothers of Ames, IA	RAM	3500	2024	\$ 111,828.00

Replacing the current response rescue trucks to the F350 Ford trucks aligns with the Council's goal of reducing carbon emissions. The Ford trucks will have gas engines while the previous rescue units were diesel engines. Gallon-for-gallon, gasoline has 11% less carbon than diesel (the EPA typically uses this average to calculate emissions). The current rescue units were also of the age that they did not have emission standards as the current diesel engines require.

Upon evaluation, the bid from Stivers Ford of Waukee for the two Ford F350 chassis at \$52,998.00 each is acceptable and meets the City’s required specifications. The delivery of these two chassis is expected in July 2024.

Purchase price for two Ford F350 chassis from Stivers Ford	\$ 105,996.00
<u>Estimate for two utility bodies, emergency lighting, and accessories</u>	<u>90,000.00</u>
Estimated Total for Two Completed Emergency Response Truck	\$ 195,996.00

Funding is available for this purchase as follows:

Replacement Funds at time of delivery	\$ 379,115.00
<u>Salvage value of equipment being replaced</u>	<u>20,000.00</u>
Available funding	\$ 399,115.00

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to Stivers Ford of Waukee as the acceptable low bidder for the purchase of two 2024 Ford F350 chassis in the amount of \$105,996.
2. Award the contract to the other bidder.
3. Reject these bids.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Ames Fire Department staff and the Fleet Services Director have thoroughly evaluated this bid and agree that purchasing the two Ford F350 chassis will meet the needs of the department. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.