

# TAMWORTH FIRE/RESCUE DEPARTMENT

## Special Board of Firewards Meeting September 17, 2020

**Firewards Present:** Jim Bowles, Harry Remick, Zachary Remick, John Hartley

**Members Present:** None

**Public Present:** None

**Meeting Opened at 19:30 by Chairman Bowles**

**Purpose of Meeting:** To open proposals for new forestry truck and decide on the next course of action. Proposals were due by noon today.

**Public Comment:** N/A

### **New Business:**

Note: The Firewards connected into the ongoing Selectmen's Zoom meeting so that the Selectmen could watch proposals be opened.

No proposals were received. Twelve invitations had been sent out and most had responded back "thanks but no thanks". J. Bowles advised that he had contacted Lakes Region Fire Apparatus this afternoon to see why he hadn't submitted a proposal and he advised that he understood from Chief Colcord that we were going to re-write the RFP and send out with a later due date or order the truck through the HGAC consortium instead.

There was discussion about the difficulty in getting vendors interested in bidding or making proposals to Tamworth because we have an in town dealer that outside companies assume we will end up doing business with.

There was also discussion about what the HGAC consortium is and how it works. J. Bowles explained that it is essentially the same as the State bid for vehicles. In the case of the HGAC, the Houston-Galveston Area Council solicits bids from vendors for many different things that are used by municipal governments. They get bids on a wide variety of things from computers, to firetrucks, to wheel chocks. Members can then go to their website find the vendors, and order things from the vendors that submitted the bids. For a vehicle purchase there is a \$1,000 fee that goes to the HGAC that is built into the cost of the vehicle. J. Bowles showed the Board the order sheet that is used. There is the base vehicle section, the published options section, and an unpublished options section. The unpublished options are things offered directly from the vendor that were not bid on. The maximum amount of unpublished options is 25% of the cost of the base vehicle plus published options.

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It was agreed that this is perhaps the best way to take advantage of a competitive bid process, given our situation of having a local firetruck dealer that we've purchased multiple vehicles from in the past.

After some discussion, a motion was made by J. Hartley, seconded by H. Remick to pursue purchasing the truck through the HGAC consortium and that Chairman Bowles is authorized to sign the necessary Interlocal Contract with HGAC to facilitate this. All voted in favor.

**Adjournment:** Motion for adjournment at 20:00 made by J. Hartley. Seconded by H. Remick. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Bowles, Chairman – Board of Firewards