

Apparatus Committee Meeting
July 18, 2017
Station 1

7:30 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Tobin, Byrnes, Ford, and Murphy; Chief Patrick Champagne, IAC
Ken Graves, Lt. Rich Craver, SO Franz LaVigne, Judy Bayer and Bill Adams.

Guests: Bob Fox, Travis Croteau and Joe Champagne.

The meeting was presided by Commissioner Tobin at 7:30 p.m.

Chief Champagne commented that he reached out the Chiefs at Clifton Park FD and Vischer Ferry FD about viewing their rescue trucks. He further commented that he invited Travis Croteau, Division Manager, and Joe Champagne, Operations Manager, of Upstate NY to tonight's meeting. Travis commented that Upstate NY represents Custom Fire for fire apparatus body with a Spartan chassis and that Custom Fire has an excellent reputation for their rescue trucks which range from a heavy rescue down to a walk around rescue aka "tool box". He further commented that it was not low budget truck but is a high-end piece of equipment with impeccable workmanship.

Commissioner Tobin commented that we currently have a walk-in rescue that was designed to be a command center and at a previous apparatus committee meeting, the consensus was leaning toward a walk around rescue due to the efficiency and increased storage, and are shying away from an engine rescue. He further commented that we would be open to hearing about other options if it meets our needs.

Discussions:

- Rear mount pump suggestion
- Leasing and financing
- Production time – approximately 1 year
- Closest Custom Fire truck to view – NJ and PA
- Walk-in rescue truck pricing around \$725K
- Upstate NY prefers to do local outfitting and will provide help with design configurations of compartments
- Tandem vs. single axle – not a significant price differentiation – approx. \$18K and but don't rule out a tandem because there are many positives attributes such as less maintenance costs, extra compartments over wheels and maneuverability.
- Plan truck for present needs and future needs as well
- Stainless Steel vs Aluminum body – minimal price difference – approx. \$3-4K for stainless steel.
- Brushed stainless steel recommendation over aluminum for tread plates.
- Go to www.customfire.com website to view photos of fire apparatus.
- Need weight of current rescue truck – Bill Adams to get it weighed through Pappas Brothers.

- Advantage of roll up doors vs. doors that open out.
- Preventative maintenance program included for the first three years if truck purchased through Upstate NY whether you buy or lease.
- Lighting – LED recommended but will put in anything we want.

Joe Champagne passed out two handouts: overview of Custom Fire Company, and photos of rescue truck and 3D drawings. Joe commented that Upstate NY works hand in hand with the plant and his role is to follow through with what the customer designs. Provided a photo slide show highlighting two truck examples.

Meeting continued into the bay to look at R-373.

Discussion:

- LED lights and lighting – recommend doing with Whelan.
- Tandem body configuration
- Hopper for speedy dry or “green stuff”
- Plan for future needs – e.g. FAST team equipment
- Website to look at different tray types: Slidemaster or PAC (Performance Advantage Corporation).
- HGAC – buying consortium

Chief Champagne asked Travis to send photos of possible configurations to include eDraulic option and paratech struts option for possible future needs.

Meeting ended at 9:12 p.m.

Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, August 15th 7:30 pm Station 1
Possible visits to VFFD, CFPD and RLFD to view their rescue trucks or a presentation from another vendor.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith S. Bayer
District Manager