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## Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Jerry Burtner, Fire Chief

Re: Purchase of Engine 1

Date: September 2, 2021

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### **BACKGROUND**

The Coweta Fire Department currently has three primary response apparatus in service, Engine 1 is a 2001 E-One custom built engine, Engine 2 is a 2007 E-One commercial built engine, and Rescue 1 is a 2008 light duty rescue built on a Ford F550 chassis. Engine 1 is a custom built 4-door 4-person cab and chassis that serves as the first due engine on structure fires.

The FY 22 adopted budget includes a line item for \$550,000 to replace Engine 1 with a similar custom cab design.

### **STUDY**

A committee of firefighters and the Chiefs spent several hours over the course of many weeks discussing the current and future operational needs of the Department regarding fire response. The committee visited several neighboring fire departments to look at and drive their newer engines and discuss with their staff the pros and cons of the apparatus that those departments have purchased recently.

The committee found that the Coweta Fire Department needs a 4 door custom type chassis for fire suppression operations and a 2-door commercial built medium rescue truck for the many different rescue operations that we conduct.

The State of Oklahoma bid list includes fire apparatus, which led the committee to the manufacturer HME Ahrens Fox. This company has a 96" Side Mount Custom Cab Pumper on the production line that would be available to the City of Coweta for \$407,000 with an estimated delivery date in January of 2022. This purchase price is \$143,000 less than the estimate used for budget purposes.

While looking at the future needs of the Department, the need to replace Rescue 1 as well became the next topic of discussion. Rescue 1 has served its purpose, but in doing so has stretched the limits of its weight capacity as currently outfitted. Using the same State of Oklahoma bid list, the committee found that Deep South, the manufacturer of the Department's tanker, has a 2-door commercial engine that can be built as a medium duty rescue truck that will be safer to drive and be able to carry the weight and amount of rescue equipment that we need. This truck, being the shorter chassis, would also give us the

turning radius we need to navigate the streets in our run area. The price of this truck is approximately \$270,000. By going with the commercial cab versus the custom cab, the estimated delivery time for this apparatus shrinks from 24-36 months to around 12 months.

### **EXISTING EQUIPMENT**

While both Engine 1 and Rescue 1 are at or nearing the end of their useful lives as first due equipment, it does not mean that they have become obsolete. As such, the Department would like to find storage for both apparatus and hold them as reserve apparatus in case of equipment failure for the first due equipment or as backup for major events. If the city can construct a new station in the northern portion of the run coverage area, these two apparatuses could be used as the primary response from that station until new equipment is obtained. Rescue 1's useful life within the Department will be extended through some minor reconfiguration to reduce the weight of the vehicle.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends the purchase of one (1) 96" Side Mount Custom Cab Pumper from HME Ahrens-Fox Manufacturing in the amount of four hundred seven thousand dollars and no cents (\$407,000.00) using State of Oklahoma Purchasing Contract SW0240.