

TOWN OF KIRKWOOD WORK SESSION

November 24, 2020

Present: Supervisor Gordon Kniffen
Councilman Robert Weingartner
Councilman Lewis Grubham
Councilwoman Katie Legg
Councilman William Diffendorf, Jr.

Also Present: Kelley Diffendorf, Town Clerk
John A. Finch Jr., Commissioner of Public Works
Jim Smith, Budget Officer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Done prior to the Public Hearing

1. Discussion – Trade in 2019 Chevrolet Silverado for \$33,500.00 and buy a 2021 Chevrolet Silverado for \$33,552.55. (JAF)

John Finch said he has looked at prices from two local dealerships on what they would pay outright for his 2019 truck. One quote was \$31,400 and the other was \$33,500. I want to trade that in and get a new truck so I went on New York State Marketplace and got a price for a 2021 Silverado at \$33,552.55. That would only cost the Town \$52.55 for a new truck. The minimum we will get for the 2019 truck is \$33,500, it is currently on the auction site. There's nine days left on the auction and it's at \$24,700 right now. If it goes for more than \$33,500 on the auction site we will definitely go with that and might make a little money. The value of the truck according to NADA is \$37,000. But the buyer has to pay a 4% buyer's premium on the auction site so you have to keep that into consideration. Regardless, it is being sold by December 10th to a local dealer if the auction site gets us less than the \$33,500. The auction ends December 7th.

John Finch continued saying, I do put a plow attachment on the truck that comes out of our snow removal budget. The truck itself comes out of our equipment budget. John Finch answered Councilman Weingartner saying I am just selling the 2019 with the hook up for the plow, the frame underneath and the wiring. It will cost about \$2,200 for a plow for the new truck. The radios we are getting are the ones from the County, the new digital radio system. But for the meantime, the radio that is in the 2019 truck comes out and goes in the new truck. It will cost us \$52 for the new truck and whatever attachments I put on it, which will most likely be the plow frame.

John Finch answered Jim Smith by saying the municipalities are the only ones that get the state pricing off the OGS website. That is how we can manage the trade in. Over two years it has cost us \$52 plus the cost of a plow, you can't beat that. Councilman Diffendorf said when people ask why we have another new truck, we can explain it only cost us \$52 on a trade in. Resolution.

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Discussion – Mini Excavator.

John Finch said the Mini Excavator sold on Auctions International site for \$46,900 when we originally thought we would get \$40,000. We made out really good on that. Back in March before the Covid hit, we could have sold it for \$47,600. Basically we used it for the whole summer and put 600 more hours on it and it only cost us a \$700 price difference from March until now.

2. Discussion – Pet Friendly Salt for the Walking Track. (JAF)

John Finch said I've had a couple residents ask if we could consider using pet friendly salt on the walking tracks. The salt we use on the buildings is pet friendly, it's blue. Typically on the walking track we plow it and salt it at the same time with the same salt we put on the roads. Sue Glovich looked into the price differences. The salt we use on the roads costs about \$.03 per pound and the Safer than Salt is about \$.30 per pound. So, it's about 10 times more expensive to put on the track. Councilman Weingartner explained to Councilman Diffendorf the difference is it's not really salt, it's a chemical ice melt. Councilman Diffendorf questioned that the chemical melt is safer than natural salt. He asked about the danger of regular salt to the dogs. John Finch said the residents said it irritates the dog's pads when they walk on it. I guess it dries their pads out and damages their feet. Councilman Grubham said it seems a little expensive and the track is there for people. If people want to bring their dogs that is fine but I don't think we should have to put different salt on the track. John Finch responded to Supervisor Kniffen saying, I'm estimating about \$100 each time we use it. We'd have to do Grange Hall Road Park too, and maybe River Park. We may have to use it every day, depending on the weather. That's a \$100 a day compared to \$10. We have been doing it this way for 30 plus years. Councilman Weingartner said they make dog pads for them. To me, it's not fiscally responsible. Councilman Grubham said this is not the time when we are struggling with the budget. John Finch said some have offered to donate towards it, but I don't think they realize the cost. Councilman Weingartner said then you also would need a designated salt spreader. John Finch said the walk behind spreader would cost \$260 and then we'd have to have someone over there spreading it, which could take away from them being on the roads. Councilman Diffendorf said I think it is way too much. Councilwoman Legg agreed. With all Board members agreeing that it will cost too much, there will be no resolution.

3. Audit of Claims.

Resolution.