
**CITY OF GARDINER
FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT
MEMORANDUM**

To: Jeff Kobrock, City Manager
From: Chief Mark Kimball
Subject: Vehicle Purchase
Date: September 25, 2007

In January of 2001, the City purchased a 2002 Chevy Blazer to be utilized as a “command type vehicle” under the direction of Chief Coty. The vehicle purchased was an “off the lot” vehicle, not totally designed for its needed use. In addition, it was equipped with unnecessary extras such as carpeting, alloy wheels, accent trim package, etc, that comes with the off the lot vehicles. This vehicle sold for \$27,433.00 or 6 payments of \$4,800.00. In keeping with the City’s effort to keep its vehicle fleet updated and still receive the greatest trade value, this vehicle was traded for a 2008 Ford Expedition, SSV (special services vehicle). These vehicles are designed for “emergency vehicle use” for police-fire & EMS and are only sold to government entities. They are equipped with larger alternators, heavy-duty brakes and suspension parts, leading to less maintenance cost as compared to standard vehicles. They also have standard seating, vinyl flooring and no console, nor any “bells & whistles”. Actually, the only “extra’s” are air and power windows. (Considered standard these days.) The Ford Expedition and (GM Yukon or Suburbans out of price range) are the emergency service standards for this type of vehicle. The City of Augusta has also just acquired two Ford Expeditions for their fleet. In addition, we are keeping in line with all our other vehicles in fleet being Ford. After soliciting bids, Quirk Ford offered the best pricing.

The new vehicle sold for \$28,710.00 (\$1,277.00 increase over the 2002 purchase), less \$9,530.00 trade in, leaving a balance of \$19,530.00. A budgeted amount of \$6,000.00 lease payment was approved.

We worked with the Maine Municipal Bond Bank in soliciting the lowest interest rate of 5.04% through Gorham Savings bank. At a cost of \$5,248.00/4 years. This figures to be \$752.00 less than budgeted.

In closing, the Gardiner Fire Department was able to obtain a vehicle that meets its needs for a price that was under the budgeted amount.