

**SUMMARY
TOWN OF MONTVERDE
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

January 20, 2015

The Town of Montverde met for a Council Workshop on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall Auditorium.

Council Present:

President Glenn Burns

Billy Bates

Arthur Nix

Jim Pierce

Joe Wynkoop

Staff Present:

Graham Wells, Town Clerk

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:31 and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was performed, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Mayor Bennett asked for a special meeting next Tuesday at 6:30 for the announcement of a closed door meeting. He also said the closed door meeting with Council will be held on February 3 at 6:30.

Fire Chief Kevin Rausch addressed Council regarding Fire Department needs. The following is a summary of topics discussed:

1. Chief Rausch explained that the Attack truck is not needed. It is a 2008 Ford F150. A second engine would better serve the needs of the Town, and would help lower the ISO rating.
2. He presented four options for the Town's engines/trucks:
 - a. Sell the Attack truck and purchase another engine. A municipality in Florida has offered to purchase the truck for \$65,000. The money could be used to buy another engine, which would mean more fire personnel could respond to calls. A used engine with 45,000 miles could be purchased for \$65,000, and an additional \$35,000 would be needed for painting, lettering, etc. The Department already has enough equipment to be placed on the new engine.
 - b. Sell the Attack truck and purchase an aerial truck. The aerial truck basically functions as a ladder truck and an engine. After selling the Attack truck, an additional \$95,000 would be needed to purchase the aerial truck, and this amount would include painting and lettering.


- c. Keep Attack truck, but make improvements. For this option, funding would be needed to make the Attack truck more like a brush truck, which would mean decreasing the weight of the vehicle.
 - d. Make improvements to the Attack truck and sell Engine 85. To re-chassis Engine 85 would cost \$125,000. Instead, Engine 85 could be sold as-is, and a ladder truck could be purchased with the sales dollars.
3. Chief Rausch explained that the need for the ladder truck basically stems from the Academy's dorms and Sports Complex. He added that there could be an additional need for a ladder truck if Bella Collina asks for fire protection for their five-story boutique hotel.
 4. A benefit of a ladder truck is a possible three-point reduction in the Town's ISO rating.
 5. A ladder truck could get through most neighborhoods in Town, except for Magnolia Terrace Phase I and Lakeside Drive.
 6. There would be additional maintenance costs for the ladder truck, but it would amount to less than \$1,000 per year.
 7. Chief Rausch said that he spoke with Dr. Kesselring with Montverde Academy, and he indicated that the Academy may be willing to contribute funds for the purchase of a ladder truck.

Consensus on this topic was that staff would wait for the fire study to be completed to make these big decisions on the type and number of fire apparatus needed. The study should help determine who the Fire Department is, and then Council can determine what equipment is needed, based on the type of Fire Department that is needed in Montverde.

Chief Rausch also asked for additional funding for various repair and maintenance items in the Fire Department for 2015. Council directed him to present a budget transfer at the next Council meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Troy A. Bennett, Mayor



Glenn Burns, Council President

ATTEST:



Graham Wells, Town Clerk

