

P. O. BOX 705
210 LINDEN STREET
APPOMATTOX, VA 24522

PHONE: (434) 352-8268
FAX: (434) 352-2126
www.townofappomattox.com

TOWN MANAGER
GARY L. SHANABERGER

Town of Appomattox



MAYOR
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COUNCIL MEMBERS:
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MARY LOU SPIGGLE
CLERK OF COUNCIL
ROXANNE W. CASTO, MMC

May 21, 2020

Appomattox County Board of Supervisors
Attn: Susan Adams, County Administrator
P O Box 863
Appomattox, VA 24522

Dear Mrs. Adams,

The Appomattox Town Council has agreed upon a plan to help fund a new fire truck for the Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department. The Town is willing to pay 40% of the truck, up to \$240,000. Should the cost exceed this amount, the Town Council would be favorable to additional funds. Additionally, the Town is favorable of financing the first 40% should this be the preferred option and submit a letter of commitment to a lending agency.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Shanaberger

Gary L. Shanaberger,
Town Manager

Fwd: FW: Letter re: AVFD Fire Truck

From: Jonathan Garrett <f12avfd@gmail.com>

Sent: Wed, Jun 10, 2020 at 4:48 pm

To: john.hinkle@appomattoxcountyva.gov, sam.carter@appomattoxcountyva.gov, Bill Hogan, watkins.abbitt@appomattoxcountyva.gov, trevor.hipps@appomattoxcountyva.gov

Cc: Roxanne Casto, Gary Shanaberger, Susan M. Adams, pharvey@appomattoxva.gov

FY 2021 - 40% of fire truck.pdf (197.8 KB)

In an effort to provide some clarity related to the topic of a new fire engine purchase, I wanted to share this with you. I have spoke with Bruce Drinkard with Farmers Bank as well as Patrick Richardson with the Bank of the James and both have stated that they would honor a letter of commitment from the Town and County as evidence of a revenue stream for the fire department to qualify for a loan. I do not speak on behalf of all of Town Council, however once the Town budget is approved as currently presented the Town will have allocated up to \$240,000 for their portion of the 40% for the Fire Engine. This donation is contingent upon the Appomattox Fire Department earmarking these funds for payments towards a loan secured to purchase the truck. This offers the county to be in a more favorable position and allows the board the time to fulfill the current obligation to Pamplin VFD. Once the financial obligation to Pamplin has been satisfied then the County could then offer the 60% portion provided that it is approved. The county could provide the 60% in increments suitable to the counties financial position. Additionally since we last spke the Appomattox Fire Department mailer fundraiser is underway as we speak. All proceeds from this fundraiser have already been allocated towards a down payment for the replacement fire engine. I wanted to relay this updated information to you as I hadn't heard from the Bank's at the time I presented this to both the County and Town. I appreciate everyone's understanding and look forward to hearing back from you, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out.

Jonathan Garrett
434-660-0504

Sent: Thursday, May 21, 2020 2:46 PM

To: Susan M. Adams <susan.adams@appomattoxcountyva.gov>

Subject: Letter re: AVFD Fire Truck

Susan,

Please find attached a letter from the Town regarding the Appomattox Volunteer Fire Department's request for funding assistance for a fire truck.

Thanks,
Roxanne

Roxanne W. Casto, MMC

Clerk of Council

Town of Appomattox

P O Box 705

Appomattox, VA 24522

www.townofappomattox.com

rcasto@appomattoxva.gov

434-352-8268 Main Office

434-352-3976 Direct Line

434-352-2126 Fax

Re: Fwd: FW: Letter re: AVFD Fire Truck

From: Jonathan Garrett <f12avfd@gmail.com>

Sent: Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 3:04 pm

To: Susan M. Adams

Cc: john.hinkle@appomattoxcountyva.gov, sam.carter@appomattoxcountyva.gov, Bill Hogan, watkins.abbitt@appomattoxcountyva.gov, trevor.hipps@appomattoxcountyva.gov, Roxanne Casto, Gary Shanaberger, Paul Harvey

Susan, thanks for your reply, all the answers will be in red below the questions you're asking.

1-The Town will not be financing the fire truck, correct? After the Town Council meeting, when Mr. Carter and I met with Mr. Shanaberger and Mayor Harvey, we were told that the Town was considering financing the truck and the County would pay the 60% cost plus interest to the Town when the \$50,000 PVFD obligation was met. **We feel as if it would be best for all parties involved and maybe more simpler if the Fire Department acquires the loan from a local lender. To do this we simply need a letter from the county saying that we have financial support sufficient to secure the required funds, the Town has already submitted a letter to the Farmers Bank indicating their obligation for 40%. Based on this scenario, the Town would supply AVFD with their portion of the amount (40%). AVFD will place the (estimated) \$240,000 into a Capital Improvement Account and make payments drawing from that account towards the loan. This allows for the approximately 3 or 4 years to pass so that the obligation can be met with PCVFD at which point the county could then provide AVFD with the remaining 60% to finish making payments towards that loan. We would do this in increments based on previous years or whatever is most suitable for the County.**

2-Assuming the total cost of the truck is \$600,000, your letter indicates that the Town has agreed to 40% (\$240,000) and the request to the County is 60% (\$360,000). Is this correct or will the expense be determined after you receive proceeds from the fundraiser? **That information is accurate however that cost is only estimated and we will not fully know an exact price until we get farther in the bid process. We have a list of specifications based on a previous purchase in 2013 and anticipate some price increases. It is our hope that the funds raised from the mailer fundraiser would provide a down payment or purchase necessary equipment for the new truck.**

3-The current agreement of the County is \$50,000 x 5 years for PVFD and \$50,000 x 5 years for AVFD, which I assume has been in place for years..long before my tenure and probably yours too. This would equate to \$250,000 total contribution under the current agreement. Please clarify if it is AVFD's intent to use the fundraising funds to offset the additional \$150,000 or is the expectation for the County to fully fund the 60%? **AVFD would use what funds we can towards the truck however our expected revenue from this fundraiser is approximately \$10,000. Our fire programs funds (Town and County) are what we would normally appropriate**

towards loan payments, those funds are already spoken for to pay towards a loan required to Upgrade a 20 year old fire engine. That would leave us in a situation where we would rely on the county for the funds.

4-In years past, the Town and the County have been operating on the 25% (Town) and 75% (County) shared costs on the AVFD. My understanding is that the basis for these percentages was devised from the call response in the Town and the County. Does the change in percentage 40% (Town) and 60% (County) also now apply to the annual contribution formula? I can't speak to that specifically but I do not believe that was the intent. This was simply brought about because the Fire Department needs to replace this fire engine and the Town Council, realizing that, they wanted to offer up a favorable agreement that asked for less of the county from a financial standpoint. I do not feel that is an appropriate question for me to answer and would refer that to Gary Shanaberger.

5-Will the AVFD be selling the truck that is being replaced? AVFD has yet to formally decide what to do with the truck, however per NFPA it must be removed from service and we don't have any remaining room in our building so I would anticipate that if we obtain approval for this funding to replace this truck we would be putting it up for sale. In the event that we are able to sell this truck all funds would go directly to the replacement however this truck can not be removed from service until we receive and put in service an equivalent replacement.

Members of the board, please understand that this request is a 30 year investment of a fire suppression apparatus that will serve all of Appomattox County when needed. Our membership is passionate about the job that we do in serving this community and appreciate your understanding and support. I understand these are challenging times financially for our community as well as across this nation but I do appreciate your support.

Respectfully, Jonathan Garrett

On Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 2:17 PM Susan M. Adams <susan.adams@appomattoxcountyva.gov> wrote:

Jonathan,

Thank you for the follow up information pertaining to the purchase of the AVFD truck. I appreciate your sharing the news of your conversation with the local banks and potentially obtaining local funding from them. Also, you mentioned a fundraiser in July and if you would like for me to distribute the information to the Board as well as add it to the County's FB page and website, please forward it to me. Since this information is a little different from the information that was communicated at the Town meeting and to assure that I am communicating the correct message to the Board, can you verify the following:

1-The Town will not be financing the fire truck, correct? After the Town Council meeting, when Mr. Carter and I met with Mr. Shanaberger and Mayor Harvey, we were told that the Town was considering financing the truck and the County would

pay the 60% cost plus interest to the Town when the \$50,000 PVFD obligation was met.

2-Assuming the total cost of the truck is \$600,000, your letter indicates that the Town has agreed to 40% (\$240,000) and the request to the County is 60% (\$360,000). Is this correct or will the expense be determined after you receive proceeds from the fundraiser?

3-The current agreement of the County is \$50,000 x 5 years for PVFD and \$50,000 x 5 years for AVFD, which I assume has been in place for years..long before my tenure and probably yours too. This would equate to \$250,000 total contribution under the current agreement. Please clarify if it is AVFD's intent to use the fundraising funds to offset the additional \$150,000 or is the expectation for the County to fully fund the 60%?

4-In years past, the Town and the County have been operating on the 25% (Town) and 75% (County) shared costs on the AVFD. My understanding is that the basis for these percentages was devised from the call response in the Town and the County. Does the change in percentage 40% (Town) and 60% (County) also now apply to the annual contribution formula?

5-Will the AVFD be selling the truck that is being replaced?

Jonathan, I appreciate your addressing these questions prior to Monday's meeting. Take care, stay cool and thank you for your dedication to the Appomattox community .

Susan M. Adams, Administrator
Appomattox County
153A Morton Lane; P.O. Box 863
Appomattox, VA 24522
Office:(434)352-3899; Cell:(434)315-4325
Email: Susan.Adams@AppomattoxCountyVa.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: "Jonathan Garrett" <f12avfd@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 4:48pm
To: john.hinkle@appomattoxcountyva.gov, sam.carter@appomattoxcountyva.gov, "Bill Hogan" <bill.hogan@appomattoxcountyva.gov>, watkins.abbitt@appomattoxcountyva.gov, trevor.hipps@appomattoxcountyva.gov
Cc: "Roxanne Casto" <rcasto@appomattoxva.gov>, "Gary Shanaberger" <gshanaberger@appomattoxva.gov>, "Susan M. Adams" <susan.adams@appomattoxcountyva.gov>, pharvey@appomattoxva.gov
Subject: Fwd: FW: Letter re: AVFD Fire Truck

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Thanks,
Roxanne

Roxanne W. Casto, MMC
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