

STAFF REPORT

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| MTG. DATE: | April 5th, 2022 |
| TO: | Public Works & Properties Committee |
| FROM: | JJ Larson –Director of Public Works & Utilities/Deputy Administrator |
| RE: | Direction on equipment purchase |

BACKGROUND

The Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee (now part of the standing Public Works, Properties & Sustainability Committee) has given guidance that the Village will move to replace vehicles/equipment with electric vehicles when it's reasonable to do so. As we move into next year's budget talks, we are planning to propose purchase of one new truck and replacement of another in the Capital Plan. Given the addition of staff in the department over the last few years, we are in need of a Public Works General Transportation vehicle. Ideally this would be a vehicle that our new Deputy Director of Public Works could use day-to-day and would also serve as a vehicle that staff could take to trainings and conferences as needed. Historically, this would mean the purchase of a crew cab/4 door pickup truck that could easily fit those needs. The other truck in need of replacement is our $\frac{3}{4}$ ton Ford, equipped with a lift-gate. This truck is often used to haul trailers and large loads.

OVERVIEW

Presently, there only appears to be one viable option for an entirely electric pickup truck on the market, the Ford F150 Lightning and we anticipate there could be operational challenges with planning to utilize this vehicle as a replacement for our $\frac{3}{4}$ ton and potentially in the way we hope to utilize the General Transportation vehicle as well. Of particular concern for the $\frac{3}{4}$ ton is the towing ability of an all-electric truck as presently available on the market. It doesn't appear the performance is there at the level of our current truck. For the General Transportation vehicle the bigger concern is the availability of charging stations throughout the state. We know Dane County is adding more and more charging stations, but staff attends trainings and conferences all over the state and the uncertainty that they'll have somewhere to plug in when they arrive is a concern.

RECOMMENDATION

We are looking for discussion/guidance from the Committee on these near-future planned purchases. Alternative options as we continue to move to a greener fleet:

- More fuel-efficient, gas model to replace the $\frac{3}{4}$ ton
- Hybrid options for the new one (SUV instead of a truck)