



Village Trustee Memo

MEMO Date:	December 3, 2021
Meeting Date:	Public Works Committee December 7, 2021 Utility Commission December 8, 2021 Plan Commission December 8, 2021
TO:	Committee Members
FROM:	Village Trustee Melissa Ratcliff
RE:	Leaf Vac Truck

OVERVIEW/BACKGROUND:

Many residents have inquired about the village providing leaf pick up services. As our trees continue to age throughout the village, more residents will request this service. Additionally, removing leaves from residences will prevent unwanted phosphorus from getting into our water system that eventually gets to our lakes, causing increased algae growth and blocking the waterflow, resulting in flooding.

ARPA funding can be used on a leaf vac truck due to it impacting our waterways. Unfortunately, worldwide challenges in supply chains, worker shortages, etc., have caused increased truck production time and costs. Any vehicle ordered now likely wouldn't make it to our community until mid-2023. In order to make sure that we have the equipment we need in 2023, ordering a vehicle now is important if this is the direction we'd like to move forward with.

If we moved forward with the leaf truck, we would also require another staff person in Public Works. JJ has already indicated that in 2023 they will need at least one more additional staff person. The truck likely wouldn't be delivered until mid to late fall, 2023, and as leaves generally don't need to be raked until September, this new Public Works staff person wouldn't have to be budgeted to start until mid-2023, which saves some operational costs in 2023, as well.

JJ provided the following information to also consider:

- 25 Yard leaf box (big enough to avoid constant dumping) and allow for one-person operation with a J-hook setup (meaning the chassis can be outfitted with other things when not in use for leaf pick up) \$300,000 to \$400,000;
- Adding replacement vehicle in our capital plan for every 7 to 10 years;
- Public Works employee \$81,331.12 (\$25 per hour plus benefits) yearly cost;



-Increased maintenance budget ~\$7,500 per year.

RECOMMENDATION:

Provide information to the Village Board as to the recommendations your commission believes the Village Board should move forward with.