

ANKENY CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
MAY 24, 2010

The two issues covered were the possible purchase of a new ladder truck, and staffing at station #2.

Consultant Jim Sparr made the presentation. With station #2, EMS (74% of calls) response times fall within the 90% within 8 minutes. However, fire calls don't.

The presented options run from 3 to 6 additional positions. It takes 3+ people to fill a position 24/7/52. The 3 position option would cost about \$450,000 for the first year. The 6 position option doubles that. \$450,000 adds .23 to the levy without making any offsetting cuts, something the Council was not ready to endorse. There was also a discussion about using DMACC fire safety students to augment the force. The Council also discussed the role of paid-on-call volunteers (52 available). The Council also asked for more data on calls: force ratios/population, calls/population, etc.

The ladder truck has hit 20 years. The ladder needs some work, and the main pump just gave out. A new truck is estimated to cost \$900,000 - GO Bonds. Repairing the pump is estimated to be \$45,000 and extend the life of the truck 4 more years. In four years the cost of a new truck may increase to \$1,000,000. The consensus was to 1) get firm estimates on the repair and purchase, 2) determine if a 20 year life span is OK, or if 25 years is acceptable, 3) go the repair route if firmer numbers match the estimates. Carl pushed for a new truck, but Tom, Wade, and Craig seemed pretty firm on taking the 'repair' option.

Look for a lot of pressure to expand the PD in 2012/13.