

MEETING DATE: February 11, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: 7. City Fire Services Update

FROM: Adam Cox / Jon Kennedy
RE: City Fire Services Update

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In an effort to ensure a smooth transition, the City extended the employment of paid firefighters to four weeks instead of two, allowing additional time to assess volunteer staffing levels and adjust to a new schedule without paid personnel. One firefighter chose to leave immediately, but this has not impacted emergency response or department operations. Coverage has remained intact, and no emergency calls have been missed.

The City continues to take a methodical, step-by-step approach in evaluating long-term fire department operations, with a focus on stabilizing services without disruption.

Financially, the City still owes approximately \$45,000 on the new Type 1 fire engine but does not have the funds to cover this obligation. As a result, staff is requesting the City Council discuss and consider taking action on selling both the fire engine and the Chief Duty Pickup, which is included on tonight's agenda.

RECOMMENDATION:

City staff recommends allowing additional time to carefully assess and determine a mid-to-long-term direction for sustaining fire and EMS services to Isleton residents. In the meantime, the City will continue to work closely with neighboring agencies to maintain mutual and automatic aid agreements to ensure adequate emergency response coverage.