

**TOWN OF FAIRFAX
STAFF REPORT**

To: Mayor, Members of the Town Council

**From: Michael Rock, Town Manager
Kathy Wilkie, Public Works Director**



Date: November 3, 2010

Subject: Adopt a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax Declaring the Public Works Street Sweeper and Asphalt Tack Oiler as Surplus to the Needs of the Town and Authorizing the Public Works Department to Dispose of Same by Public Auction

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax declaring the Public Works street sweeper and asphalt tack oiler as surplus to the needs of the Town and authorizing the Public Works Department to dispose of same by public auction.

DISCUSSION

At the October 6, 2010, Council directed staff to evaluate the costs of converting the Tymco sweeper to biofuel and placing the vehicle back in service. Council desired to review more current information on salary, repair and maintenance cost savings prior to finding the vehicle to be surplus property. The following information includes the history of street sweeping, the impacts on converting to biodiesel fuel, and the cost analysis of the street sweeping options.

History - Street sweeping services were provided by the Lead Maintenance Worker from 2001 to 2008. The person performing this function retired in 2008 and has not been replaced. The Council supported contracting for street sweeping with Marin Sanitary Service in 2008, saving the Town more than \$92,360 per year in salary, benefits and vehicle maintenance costs.

The implementation of AB 32 in 2007 rendered the street sweeper non compliant with the California Air Resources Board standards for particulate emissions. The new regulations only permit vehicles that have not been retrofitted with new air filters to operate 50 hours per year or less. Marin County exceeds population limits (125,000) for an exemption to this limit.

Biodiesel Operations – Golden Gate Petroleum currently provides fuel service to the Town and provides three variations of biodiesel suitable to municipal operations. The following items summarize the information for consideration before moving forward with biodiesel:

- Biodiesel fuel acts as a solvent and will clean the tanks (both storage & vehicle fuel tanks).
- Operating on biodiesel will clog fuel filters faster initially due to the solvent effect. After time, the fuel filters will last longer and vehicle maintenance costs will revert to normal operations.
- Most vehicles prior to 2007 had fuel lines made out of rubber that will deteriorate faster with biodiesel fuel. Therefore, fuel lines in vehicles older than 2007 will require fuel line replacements.

- Biodiesel is not recommended for vehicles that sit non-op for long periods of time (>90 days) due to the growth of microbes/bacteria/algae which will prevent the vehicle from starting. Most Town-owned diesel equipment and vehicles sit for extended periods of time and are either used during summer months for street work or winter months for hauling storm-related debris.
- Biodiesel and water do not mix, therefore the containment tank and vehicle fuel tanks should be checked before starting the process.
- In general, biodiesel is more expensive than regular diesel and the fluctuation in pricing is more dependent on the petroleum based ingredient than on the biofuel.
- Golden Gate Petroleum can provide B5, B20 or B99.9 depending on how the Town chooses to proceed. They recommend starting with B5 and going to B20 in summer as a green starting point.
- Quantity will affect the pricing. If the Town chooses to run vehicles with B99.9 we will need to determine what size of drum/container will suit our needs (and will fit in the available space).

Cost Analysis – The following table shows the revised cost estimates based on the above information.

Item	Replace	Repair	Biodiesel Conversion	Marin Sanitary
New Hire 0.5 FTE Salary & Benefits	\$ 38,456	\$ 38,456	\$ 38,456	
Fuel	\$ 2,226	\$ 2,226	\$ 2,671	
Annual Maintenance*	\$ 5,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 12,000	
New Vehicle (amortized)**	\$ 183,175	\$ 18,318	\$ 18,318	
Upgrades / Initial Repairs***		\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	
Contractual Services (2009/10 actual)				\$ 46,438
Annual Cost	\$ 229,357	\$ 104,000	\$ 105,445	\$ 46,438

* 2001 Tymco is due for replacement in 2013. Increased maintenance costs are a result of age.

** 2010 replacement cost is \$183,175. Set aside of \$61,058 annually will be required to fund scheduled replacement in 2013.

*** Existing sweeper needs replacement parts and upgrades to be compliant with Air Resources Board requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated minimum value of the 2001 Tymco street sweeper is \$20,000 and the asphalt tack oiler is \$500 although the final values will not be known until the auction is complete. This is a one-time source of funds. Continuing to contract street sweeping services saves \$57,562 per year.

ATTACHMENTS

1. A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax Declaring the Public Works Street Sweeper and Asphalt Tack Oiler as Surplus to the Needs of the Town and Authorizing the Public Works Department to Dispose of Same by Public Auction

RESOLUTION NO.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX
DECLARING THE PUBLIC WORKS STREET SWEEPER AND ASPHALT TACK
OILER AS SURPLUS TO THE NEEDS OF THE TOWN AND AUTHORIZING THE
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO DISPOSE OF SAME BY PUBLIC AUCTION**

WHEREAS, the Town owns a 2001 Tymco street sweeper and asphalt tack oiler which were purchased for use by the Public Works Department; and

WHEREAS, the street sweeper is non-compliant with California Air Quality standards; and

WHEREAS, street sweeping services are now provided more efficiently by contract and the asphalt tack oiler is in disrepair and has been replaced; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned equipment is no longer needed for Town purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax on this 3rd day of November, 2010, that the 2001 Tymco street sweeper and asphalt tack oiler are hereby declared as surplus to the needs of the Town and the Public Works Department is hereby directed to dispose of these vehicles by public auction.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Attest:

Lew Tremaine, Mayor

Judy Anderson, Town Clerk