



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
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Financial and Management Services - Finance

Board Action

File # 26-116

Commissioner Hovis - Financial and Management Services - Finance - To Approve a Certificate of Need (CON) for North Gaston Fire Department for Purchase of 3 Apparatuses in the Amount of \$1,185,000 00 to be Financed with United National

STAFF CONTACT

Kyle Sutherland - Finance - 704-866-3130

BUDGET IMPACT

No budget impact. No appropriation of County funds.

BACKGROUND

At the February 24, 2026 Fire Commission Meeting, a Certificate of Need (CON) was presented for North Gaston Fire Department for 3 Apparatuses in the amount of \$1,185,000.00 to be financed with United National. The Fire Commission approved the Certificate of Need. The line item for debt payments in the current budget will be retiring and will be replaced with the loan for the 3 apparatuses.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Certificate of Need 20262242-47

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows.

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	JBailey	CBrown	CCloninger	AFraley	BHovis	TKeigher	SShehan	Vote
2026-094	03/24/2026	BH	TK	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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Gaston County Fire Commission



CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION

Fire Department

Name

North Gaston Fire Rescue

Address

110 Thomkins ST

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

High Shoals

City

North Carolina

State

28077

Zip Code

Chief

Dennis Cash

Contact Phone #

(704) 736-5723

Board President

Terry Black

Contact Phone #

(704) 675-8853

Fire Department Board Approval / Notification

Yes No

General Description of Purchase

Fouts Fire Super Tanker
Fouts Fire Four Mini Pumper
Fouts Fire Commercial Pumper

Time Line of Purchase

March 2026

List Specifics of Purchase

Acquisition of 3 apparatuses. This will replace Squad 21 and Rescue 21, and additionally provide a more versatile apparatus for rural response.

Estimated Cost

\$1,185,000 00

Financing Information

Lender

United Financial

Amount Financed

\$1,185,000 00

Rate

5.25

Estimated Amount

\$1,185,000 00

Number of Payments

36

Down Payment Amount

\$0 00

Debt Ratio-Current / Post Purchase

15 1499 / 18.6563

Any Re-Financing or Bundling

Yes No

If Yes, then Describe

How Will Purchase Benefit the Department (Safety/ISO/Cost Savings, etc)

This will replace 2 aging apparatuses, as well as provide a more versatile vehicle for rural response. In addition, this will help curb increasing maintenance costs currently incurred from an aging fleet.

How Will Purchase be Funded (Long Term - NOT Just Current Year)

Purchase cost will be covered by a private bank loan. The costs associated with the loan will be accounted for in the annualized budget requests.

If Purchase is NOT Approved for Funding, Describe Department Alternatives

If not approved, additional funds will need to be requested as part of the maintenance line item within the annual budget.

Is This a Replacement?

Yes No

If Yes, List Details (Make, Model, Years of Service, Remaining Balance, etc.)

Squad 21 - 2003 Pierce. No balance remaining.
Rescue 21 - 2007 GM C5500 No balance remaining.

What Will Become of Old Apparatus / Equipment?

Squad 21 and Rescue 21 will be sold, and the earnings put towards the balance of the new loan

Submit your last three 5-Year Capital Improvement Plans:

5-year Plan
5 Year Plan.pdf

5-year Plan #2 (optional)

5-year Plan #3 (optional)

Account Balances:

Checking	CD	Savings	Relief Fund	Other	Other
				Name of Fund	Name of Fund
				Other	Other

STAFF ONLY

Received By (OEMFS Director).

Date:

Fire Commission Meeting Date:

APPROVED NOT
APPROVED

Gaston County BOC Meeting Date.

APPROVED NOT
APPROVED

Certificate Number
20262242-47

North Gaston Fire/Rescue

5 Year Plan

- FY26
 - Replacement of Squad 21 and Rescue 21 Acquisition of Mini Pumper - \$1,185,000 00
- FY28
 - New command vehicle - \$80,000
 - Replacement hose for apparatus - \$100,000
 - Paid staffing - \$340,000