



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
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Emergency Management and Fire Services

Board Action

File #: 25-251

Commissioner Hovis - Emergency Management and Fire Services - To Approve a Certificate of Need (CON) for East Gaston Fire Department for Purchase of 2026 Spartan Smeal Engine in the Amount of \$1,100,000.00 to be Financed with Home Trust Bank

STAFF CONTACT

Scott Hunter - Emergency Management and Fire Services - 704-866-3350

BUDGET IMPACT

No budget impact. No appropriation of County funds.

BACKGROUND

At the April 16th, 2025, Fire Commission Meeting, Chief Corey Jonas presented Certificate of Need 2025402-33 for a 2026 Spartan Smeal Engine in the amount of \$1,100,000.00 to be financed with Home Trust Bank. Scott Zander made a motion to approve the Certificate of Need. Richard Albaugh seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Certificate of Need 2025402-33

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	AFrale	BHovis	TKeigher	SShehan	Vote
2025-162	05/27/2025	TK	JB	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

DISTRIBUTION:

Laserfiche Users

A=AYE, N=NAY, AB=ABSENT, ABS=ABSTAIN, U=UNANIMOUS



Gaston County Fire Commission



CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION

Fire Department

Name

East Gaston Volunteer Fire Department

Address

108 Arrochem Way, P.O. Box 288, Mount Holly, North Carolina 28120

Chief

Corey Jonas

Contact Phone #

(704) 616-0418

Board President

James Jonas

Contact Phone #

(704) 813-4832

Fire Department Board Approval / Notification

Yes

General Description of Purchase

The East Gaston Vol Fire Department seeks to purchase a 2026 Spartan Smeal Engine Company from Atlantic Coast Fire Trucks.

Time Line of Purchase

Apparatus has an anticipated completion time of Summer 2026. With payments beginning following delivery.

List Specifics of Purchase

This request is for the purchase of a 2026 Spartan Smeal Engine Company (2000/1000) to replace the existing Engine 30 a 2008 Spartan Smeal Engine (1500/1000). The loan would include the cost of the engine as well as equipment to equip the new engine, as the current Engine 30 would transition to Engine 303 and remain fully equipped and operational. Other necessary equipment would transition from Rescue 30 to the new Engine (i.e, SCBA's).

Estimated Cost

\$1,100,000.00

Financing Information

Lender

HomeTrust Bank

Amount Financed**Rate**

\$1,100,000.00

4.73

Estimated Amount

\$13,784.95

Number of Payments

96

Down Payment Amount

\$0.00

Debt Ratio-Current / Post Purchase

25.76/41

**Any Re-Financing or
Bundling**

No

If Yes, then Describe

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

This purchase will greatly benefit the longevity of the East Gaston Vol. Fire Department. Increasing operational capability allowing for a better and more complete service delivery. The apparatus would replace the aging Engine 30 (2008) which would be placed in reserve status (ISO benefit), the new Engine 30 would operate out of the Stanley CD Rescue station which eliminates the 9E area of the East Gaston District on that end of the district. The department has already seen a value add with reduced response times and better engine company distribution. Also, having a reserve engine would greatly benefit the department as the entire fleet is aging and if an apparatus were to go down it wouldn't impact service delivery. This purchase would also offset the replacement cycle allowing more time between replacements as Squad 30 is due for replacement in 2029.

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

The department intends to obtain a loan for the amount of \$1.1 Million from HomeTrust bank with an 8-year term and a monthly payment of \$13,784.95. This payment would not begin until summer of 2027 as delivery isn't anticipated until summer of 2026. The cost of the apparatus is \$945,000.00 which an additional \$155,000.00 for equipment for the new apparatus.

If Purchase is NOT Approved for Funding, Describe Department Alternatives

The department does not currently have any funding alternatives as this is such a great expense. The department would require a grant or other appropriation to purchase a new apparatus.

Is This a Replacement?

Yes

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

Engine 30 - 2008 Spartan Smeal Engine company. Rescue 30 - 2001 Freightliner FL 70 15' Dry Rescue

What Will Become of Old Apparatus / Equipment?

Engine 30 would transition to reserve status. Rescue 30 would also be sold at time of delivery to allow room for the reserve apparatus.

Submit your last three 5-Year Capital Improvement Plans:

5-year Plan

25-26 CIP.docx

5-year Plan #2 (optional)

23-24 Budget 5 Year Plan.docx

5-year Plan #3 (optional)

Account Balances:

Checking	CD	Savings	Relief Fund	Other	Other
\$100,268.08		\$1,359.59	\$78,635.13		

UPLOAD FILE(S)

Item 1

Upload Files

STAFF ONLY

Received By (OEMFS Director):

Date:

Fire Commission Meeting Date:

APPROVED
APPROVED

NOT

Gaston County BOC Meeting Date:

APPROVED
APPROVED

NOT

Certificate Number

2025402-33