



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

Financial and Management Services - Finance

Board Action

File # 26-125

Commissioner Hovis - Financial and Management Services - Finance - To Approve a Certificate of Need (CON) for Lowell Fire Department for Purchase of New Engine in the Amount of **\$900,000.00** to be Financed with Civic Federal Credit Union

STAFF CONTACT

Kyle Sutherland - Finance - 704-866-3130

BUDGET IMPACT

No budget impact.

BACKGROUND

At the March 12, 2026 Fire Commission Meeting, a Certificate of Need (CON) was presented for Lowell Fire Department for a New Engine in the amount of \$900,000.00 to be financed with Civic Federal Credit Union. The Fire Commission approved the Certificate of Need with financing terms to be 15 years. The line item for debt payments will increase and be included in the FY27 Budget.

POLICY IMPACT

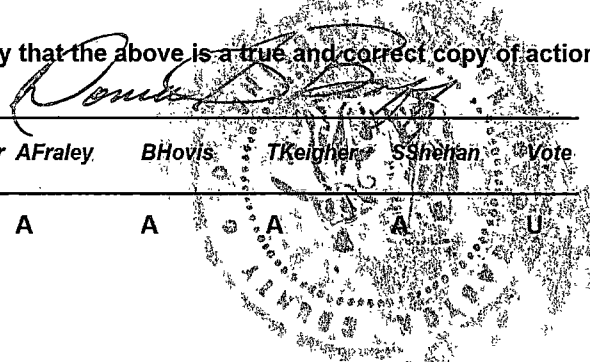
N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Certificate of Need 20262242-45

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
2026-103	03/24/2026	BH	TK	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

DISTRIBUTION.

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**Gaston County
Fire Commission**



CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATION

Fire Department

Name

LOWELL VOL FIRE DEPT

Address

202 Groves St

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

LOWELL	North Carolina	28098
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City

State

Zip Code

Chief

Robbie Cunningham

Contact Phone #

Board President

HD Fulbright

Contact Phone #

Fire Department Board Approval / Notification

Yes No

General Description of Purchase

New Fire Engine

Time Line of Purchase

Soon

List Specifics of Purchase

2026 Ferrara Sender Engine Demo Spec
1000 gallons
1750gpms single stage Hale pump
450HP Cummins

Estimated Cost

\$900,000 00

Financing Information

Lender

Civic Federal Credit Union

Amount Financed

\$900,000 00

Rate

6%

Estimated Amount

\$900,000 00

Number of Payments

120

Down Payment Amount

\$0 00

Debt Ratio-Current / Post Purchase

0

Any Re-Financing or Bundling

Yes No

If Yes, then Describe

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

Replacing our Tanker that is on the downhill decline of 29 years old. Its is costing us more to fix.

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

county

If Purchase is NOT Approved for Funding, Describe Department Alternatives

None

Is This a Replacement?

Yes No

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

1997 Ferrara Engine 1000 gallon

What Will Become of Old Apparatus / Equipment?

Reserve

Submit your last three 5-Year Capital Improvement Plans.

5-year Plan

IMG_20260212_202908 heic

5-year Plan #2 (optional)

5-year Plan #3 (optional)

Account Balances:

Checking	CD	Savings	Relief Fund	Money Market	Other
\$50,223.23	\$36,937 56	\$13,334 75		\$9,690 99	
				Name of Fund	Name of Fund
				Money Market	Other

STAFF ONLY

Received By (OEMFS Director)

Date.

Fire Commission Meeting Date.

APPROVED
APPROVED

NOT

Gaston County BOC Meeting Date.

APPROVED
APPROVED

NOT

Certificate Number

20262242-45

