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## New Fire Engine Purchased for Volunteer Fire Department

On October 24, 2022, the town board voted unanimously to purchase a new fire engine for the volunteer fire department. The cost of the new truck is \$742,800.00.

The current fire engine is 27-years-old. The new truck will not arrive for 32 to 36 months making the existing truck 30-years-old by the time the new one gets here.

We did discuss buying a used truck. Those trucks were already 10 - 12 years old and may not have been set up for our department's needs.

We were also informed that new fire engine prices have been increasing at a rate of approximately 6% every 6 months due to supply chain issues. That could be an increase of about \$89,000.00 in one-year.

Unfortunately, this means we will have to increase taxes to pay for this. Our plan while not final yet is to save \$120,000.00/per year for 3-years. This would give us \$360,000.00 to pay down at the time of delivery thus saving 3-years of interest payments.

What does this mean for your tax bill? For every \$100,000.00 dollars your property is assessed at, it would mean about \$50.00 increase in your property tax. Example: \$300,000.00 property assessment would see a \$150.00 increase on your tax bill.

We, the town board, do not take raising taxes lightly. Yet, we are also responsible for the safety of our citizens. There will be a Budget Hearing to take public comment and Special Town meeting on November 28, 2022 prior to our regular town board meeting to further discuss this issue along with the rest of our town budget.

Please watch for meeting notices. You can sign up for automatic meetings notices sent to you by email or text message. You may subscribe/sign-up on the town's website at [townofoshkosh.com](http://townofoshkosh.com).

Thank you,

Town of Oshkosh Board