

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	November 4, 2024
Action Required:	Approve Donation
Presenter:	Michael Thomas, Fire Chief
Staff Contacts:	Michael Thomas, Fire Chief
Title:	Resolution for donation of antique fire engine to Old Dominion Historical Fire Society, Inc.

Background

In 2007, the Old Dominion Historical Fire Society (ODHFS) donated Engine 2, a 1929 Seagrave pumper, back to the Charlottesville Fire Department (CFD). Mr. Craig initially privately purchased the engine after the city disposed of it. In 1981, it was donated to ODHFS with the stipulation that CFD would have the first option to reclaim it if ODHFS decided to deaccession it. Attached to this memo is the request letter from ODHFS detailing their rationale for the donation.

As noted in the letter, the engine's intended display has not been feasible, and it has been stored in a shipping container at the Ridge Street Fire Station for some time. CFD's prior Fire Chief Werner's initial intention when reclaiming the engine was to display it in a fire station for public viewing. However, we lack a display area or adequate storage space, and the engine is no longer operational. Furthermore, the department does not have the funding to restore it to working condition.

The City Warehouse Specialist has appraised the engine's value in its non-running state at \$7,000. The City's Procurement Manager has reviewed the request, and the City Attorney's Office has confirmed compliance with relevant code language and ODHFS's status. ODHFS has provided its non-profit documentation, which Attorney Wimberly has reviewed, confirming its eligibility under the historical events criteria outlined in the code.

CFD staff is seeking permission to donate the engine back to ODHFS. This would allow them to fully restore it and house it at the Virginia Fire Service Museum in Roanoke, Virginia, since they have a partnership there. Afterward, they would coordinate the engine's pickup and transfer to Roanoke.

Discussion

N/A

Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan

Public Safety

Community Engagement

N/A

Budgetary Impact

None

Recommendation

Approve Resolution

Alternatives

Continue to store the fire engine in the container where it is currently housed.

Attachments

1. Antique Fire Engine Donation to Old Dominion Historical Fire Society