

Vinland Volunteer Fire Department

Truck Committee Meeting Notes

Date: 09/15/2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Vinland Volunteer Fire Department

Members Present

- Ian Babcock
 - Jay Schmoker
 - Danny Phillips
 - Scott Kobussen
 - Brian Marx
 - Mike McNamee
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Purpose of Committee

The New Truck Committee was formed to evaluate the future of Pumper 227, a 1985 fire apparatus currently in service, and determine the most practical and cost-effective path forward for the department.

The committee reviewed the feasibility of refurbishing the existing truck versus pursuing a replacement unit better suited to the department's current and future operational needs.

Discussion Summary

Current Condition of Pumper 227

- Pumper 227 is a 1985 model truck.
- The truck currently has leaks and other repairs that would need to be addressed.
- The truck does not have pump-and-roll capability.
- The truck is two wheel drive.

Future Operational Requirements

The committee agreed that any future replacement truck should include:

- Minimum 750-gallon water tank
- Maximum of 24 feet long
- 4-wheel drive (4x4)
- Pump-and-roll capability (portable pump mounted on bed, fed from truck fuel tank)
- A used, clean, well-maintained cab and chassis suitable for fire service operations and retrofit

Committee Determination

After discussion, we determined that retrofitting Pumper 227 does not make sense due to the truck's age, current repair needs, lack of 4-wheel drive, and the costs associated with adding pump-and-roll capability. The committee further agreed that investing significant funds into a 1985 apparatus would not be a prudent long-term use of town/department resources. As a result, the committee's focus will shift toward evaluating replacement options built around a newer used chassis and components that better meet the department's operational requirements. Our current goal is to determine if this is possible to accomplish with an estimated budget of 50 thousand dollars that we will have to present to Chief Chris Anderson and the town board.

Action Items

The committee will gather pricing and information on:

- A suitable 4x4 cab and chassis truck
 - A flatbed configuration for mounting fire equipment
 - A portable fire pump
 - A 750-gallon water tank
 - Potential costs associated with integrating these components into a replacement brush truck.
 - Present to Chief Chris Anderson for discussion with town board.
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Future Meetings

The committee agreed to meet on the: Third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned upon completion of discussion.

Prepared for:

Vinland Volunteer Fire Department Truck Committee

Recorded by:

Ian Babcock