



To: Town Council
From: Mark Hajduk, Fire Chief
Meeting Date: December 15, 2025
Subject: Memorandum of Understanding for Purchase of 1939 Fire Engine

Summary

The Town of Munster Fire Department's first actual fire engine was a 1939 Ahrens-Fox 500 GPM that was built specifically for the Munster Fire Department. Since the engine was sold in the early 1980s, it has had two owners. This engine is a historical piece and has been featured in many shows and magazines over the years and is in perfect working order. The current owner has owned it for many years and has ALL the original paperwork and operations manuals from the Munster Fire Department. The owner, Bermie Punte, contacted me about 8 months ago and stated he was retiring from the antique fire engine business and stated he would love for Munster's original engine to go back to Munster.

Since that conversation, The Firefighter's Association of Munster has done some fundraising and has secured the funds needed for the purchase of the Ahrens-Fox \$20,000.00

The Firefighters Association of Munster would like to donate the money to the Town of Munster for the purchase of the Ahrens-Fox, to include the money needed for transportation of the Ahrens-Fox to the Munster Fire Department. They have also asked the Town of Munster to engage in the MOU that is attached.

Financial Impact

Funding Source: Funded from the donated funds from the Firefighters Association of Munster

Budgeted Amount:

Cost: \$20,000.00 and delivery fees

Recommended Council Action

By motion and roll call vote, approve a memorandum of understanding between the Town of Munster and the Firefighters Association of Munster to purchase a 1939 Ahrens-Fox fire engine.

Attachments:

1. MOU for 1939 Fire Engine

2. 1939 Fire Truck Image 1
3. 1939 Fire Truck Image 2
4. 1939 Fire Truck Image 3
5. 1939 Fire Truck Image 4
6. 1939 Fire Truck Image 5