

Bristol Town Administrator

From: Brett LaRose Fire Chief <bristolfiredepartment@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2022 8:40 AM
To: Bristol Town Administrator
Cc: Eric J. Forand
Subject: Fwd: Fire truck

Hi Valerie,

As anticipated, the completion and delivery of the Town's new Fire Pumper has been delayed. I am forwarding you the most recent correspondence between Lakes Region Fire Apparatus (manufacturer) and Deputy Chief Eric Forand who has been leading this initiative. You will note that Eric has requested regular updates each month on progress. Also included in this email is Eric's latest correspondence with the FD working group that designed the pumper.

I have asked Eric to provide a brief update to the entire FD via our google group today to ensure everyone has the same information and more importantly, the facts. I have also asked Eric to prepare a brief report that I will read during the Department Head Roundtable at Monday's Selectboard meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Brett LaRose
Chief
Bristol Fire Department

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **BFD Deputy Chief** <bristolvtfire@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Feb 17, 2022 at 7:14 AM

Subject: Fwd: Fire truck

To: Kevin LaRose <kevinrlarose@gmail.com>, lance perlee <lanceperlee@yahoo.com>, Kris Perlee <perlee@gmavt.net>, James Goodyear <bristol.ff31@gmail.com>, Peter Coffey <pcoffey@gmavt.net>

Cc: Bristol Fire Department <bristolfiredepartment@gmail.com>

I asked Pat to send me an update each month on the status of the truck schedule until it goes on the line, this is not something that is in the contract for them to do. After it goes on the line they will begin to send pictures to us. He agreed to send the updates and his response is below.

Lance, James is correct, they collect the pieces for the truck and then they begin assembly, so unfortunately as we anticipated the global supply shortage that is affecting every manufacturing facility in the USA is also hitting HME and they are not able to source all of the pieces yet.

I am seeing similar delays in bunker gear that I have ordered, it is taking two to three times longer to get it delivered.

I understand everyone's frustration with this delay as I want the new engine here as well, but I also want to thank you for your patience. I will provide you all with information as soon as I receive it and I will continue to press HME to ensure they are finding ways to solve their supply issues.

Thanks

Eric J Forand
Deputy Chief
Bristol Fire Department

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Patrick Shaw** <pshaw@lakesfire.com>
Date: Wed, Feb 16, 2022 at 9:16 PM
Subject: RE: Fire truck
To: BFD Deputy Chief <bristolvtfire@gmail.com>

Your welcome Deputy, I will put it in my calendar to send you an update as you requested. I can let you know that HME is truly looking at every avenue to secure product and parts to build trucks for sure. As you know the pandemic has raised holy hell on everything and fire trucks unfortunately are not excluded.

HME, Lakes Region Fire Apparatus and Myself Thank you , Chief LaRose , the truck committee along with the members of the Bristol FD for understand and patience through this process.

Should you have any other concerns or question please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

Stay safe !!

Pat

Pat Shaw
Vermont Sales Representative for
Lakes Region Fire Apparatus
[Tel:802-388-4552](tel:802-388-4552)
Fax:802-388-4552
Cell:802-233-2719
pshaw@lakesfire.com
www.lakesfire.com
www.hmeahrensfox.com
www.alexisfire.com

From: BFD Deputy Chief <bristolvtfire@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 10:11 AM
To: Pat Shaw <pshaw@lakesfire.com>
Subject: Re: Fire truck

So until then, at the end of each month (March, April, May) can you send me a note with updates. I am hoping all of them will say either the truck went on the line early or it is still scheduled for Sept. But those are also the opportunity for you to let us now if it is going to be later.

I understand the delays in getting parts is not in HME's control, but I also want to know they are working as hard as they can to source these parts. We have been without our front line pumper for 8 months, we knew that when we ordered the new truck but now it is going to be over 14 months. We are lucky to have E2, but as you know without E1 we have to change how we deploy and fight fire, including asking for more mutual aid.

Thanks for listening, Hopefully it will turn to better news soon.

Eric

Eric J Forand
Deputy Chief
Bristol Fire Department