

Village shuffles its fleet

Written by MARK JAEGER
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Public Works Committee backs wheeling, dealing plan for used vehicles

The Village of Saukville Public Works Committee was in the mood to do a little wheeling and dealing on vehicles during its most recent meeting.

Originally, village officials intended to replace a 1995 Ford Ranger pickup truck used by Department of Public Works with a new truck, and then transfer another vehicle, a 1999 Ranger, to the building custodian.

The 2011 budget includes \$10,000 for the replacement DPW vehicle, which officials expected to be another used truck.

With the budget constraints the village is facing, Public Works Supt. Ray deBruijn told the committee a more economical option might work.

Making the truck switch would require considerable man hours, deBruijn said, switching tires and caps, and getting the older vehicle ready for auction.

“To spend that amount of money has become problematic. Why not sell both trucks and buy a conventional four-door sedan as a staff vehicle,” deBruijn said.

The van, which has been used sparingly to transport village employees, would be turned over to the custodian.

“There is no need for a van to be a staff vehicle because there is not the larger number of people that use it. Usually, there are one to three people (who ride in it) on a regular basis,” deBruijn said.

He said the vehicle plan “will eliminate the maintenance problems we have been having lately with the two trucks and get more use for the van instead of just sitting in the (DPW) garage.”

In addition, deBruijn said the staff car will be more fuel-efficient and should be subject to fewer repairs.

He said the combined Kelly Blue Book value of the two trucks is between \$10,000 and \$12,000.

“Hopefully, we’ll get numbers that are close to that value,” Village Administrator Dawn Wagner said.

The committee recommended the dealing scheme to the Finance Committee.