



# TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL

Town Hall  
405 Martin Luther King Jr.  
Boulevard  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

## Legislation Text

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File #: [24-0131], Version: 1

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### Approve a Sole Source Breathing Air Compressor Purchase

**Staff:**

Jay Mebane, Fire Chief  
Ryan Campbell, Administrative Services Manager

**Department:**

Fire

**Overview:** The purpose of this project is to seek approval for the acceptance of a sole source purchase from SubAquatics Inc DBA Safe Air Systems. The proposed acquisition includes a complete air compressor unit to be installed at fire station 2. This air compressor unit is used to fill the air cylinders that are used in fire suppression operations. Currently the town maintains one such station at fire station one and another on a mobile air trailer. Both systems are Bauer manufactured. Bauer has a sole source agreement in North Carolina to use SubAquatics as their distributor. This additional system will allow one of our most outlying stations to have the ability to refill their air packs without having to come into downtown.



**Recommendation(s):**

That the Council approve the resolution accepting the source purchase from SubAquatics DBA Safe Air Systems for the acquisition of a breathing air compressor unit for fire station 2.

**Fiscal Impact/Resources:** In fiscal year 2024's development \$250,000 was set aside in a capital items account for capital needs specifically for the fire department. In the development of this account this compressor project was identified as one piece of equipment that is needed. This \$250,000 in capital funding will be used to fund this purchase as outlined in the department's 5-year master budgeting plan for capital expenses.



**Attachments:**

- Resolution
- Sole source memo from the vendor

**A RESOLUTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF A SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF A BREATHING AIR COMPRESSOR UNIT FROM SUBAQUATICS INC DBA SAFEAIR SYSTEMS (2024-03-20/R-2)**

WHEREAS, the Town of Chapel Hill recognizes the critical importance of providing personal protective equipment to ensure the safety of first responders; and

WHEREAS, Bauer Systems has partnered with SubAquatics Inc for the distribution of breathing air compressors in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chapel Hill strives to leave fire units available in their home stations as frequently as possible; and

WHEREAS, the requirement for fire apparatus to travel away from their home stations to refill the air cylinders they rely on in fire suppression reduces the availability of that unit; and

WHEREAS, the funding and facilities exist for a new compressor unit to be house at fire station 2 made from the same manufacturer as existing units elsewhere in the town.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Chapel Hill that the Council hereby approves the sole source procurement of a breathing air compressor unit from SubAquatics Inc DBA Safe Air Systems.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Manager is authorized and directed to take all necessary steps to complete the procurement process with SubAquatics, including the execution of any required contracts or agreements.

This the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.

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**The Agenda will reflect the text below and/or the motion text will be used during the meeting.**

By adopting the resolution, the Council acknowledges and approves the acceptance of a sole source purchase from SubAquatics for the acquisition of one breathing air compressor unit.