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News Release

CITY USES ONLINE AUCTION SITE TO SELL SURPLUS VEHICLES

WEST CARROLLTON, Ohio – Fire Chief Jack Keister doesn't miss the days of calling small fire departments across the country to see if they had a need for an older ambulance that the West Carrollton fire department recently replaced.

Now he just posts the vehicle's photo and information on www.govdeals.com/eas/ and watches the bids come in.

The fire department recently sold a 2000 Ford Explorer on the site for \$5,925. Forty-eight people placed bids on the vehicle.

The city is currently selling a 1988 Ford diesel ambulance on the site. The first bid on the vehicle was \$1,500 more than the \$3,500 minimum required bid. Keister said GovDeals helps government agencies save time and money.

The West Carrollton streets department will also try to auction vehicles on the site – two 1996 Chevrolet 2500 utility trucks.

The GovDeals site is similar to the E-Bay online auction site. Buyers can place online bids for surplus merchandise ranging from law books to tractors available across the country. Each participating agency has its own rules and regulations regarding the duration and sale of the merchandise.

The sellers pay a 7-percent fee for each successfully sold item. This amount is often less than the amount cities previously paid to advertise and hold a live auction of surplus items. The GovDeals site also sends out automatic e-mails to any potential bidders that have registered on the site.

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Tom Reilly, finance director, said that West Carrollton's use of the site has generated more competition and better results on bids for surplus vehicles. "We're maximizing our contacts at a minimal cost to insure that we get the best bid that we can," he said.

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For more information, call **Jack Keister** at (937) 847-4645. Call **Tom Reilly** at (937) 859-8288.