

MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING  
PARKER CITY COUNCIL  
Parker City Library  
234 W. Main St., Parker, Kansas  
**December 2, 2024**

Mayor Jason Webber called the special meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

Jason Webber, Mayor	<b>Present</b>
Kari Brandt, Council President	<b>Present</b>
Gary Earley, Member	<b>Present</b>
Kandice Higgins, Member	<b>Present</b>
Ivonne Clark, Member	<b>Absent</b>
, Member	

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Appointment of City Council Member:** Mayor Jason Webber appointed Orville ‘Joe’ Godfrey to the Parker City Council seat. Mr. Godfrey accepted the appointment.

**Kandice Higgins motioned to approve the appointment of Orville ‘Joe’ Godfrey to the Parker City Council. Gary Earley seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.**

**Printer Repair Cost:** City Clerk Lisa Leach stated the printer needs two color drums replaced. The cost will be \$580 for parts and \$105 for labor.

**Kari Brandt motioned to approve the repair at the cost of \$580 and \$105. Kandice Higgins seconded the motion. It was carried 3-0.**

**Police Department:** Chief Cody Kiser informed the council he has hired Brandon Lewis to be an officer for the city.

Chief Kiser informed the council he gave his city-issued handgun to Officer Lewis to use, and Officer Stokes already has a handgun. He is asking for \$500 to purchase an additional city-issued handgun.

Chief Kiser stated the officers have no uniforms and he would like to have a budget for clothing.

Chief Kiser said the city-owned Ford Taurus is not a great patrol vehicle. It is too small and outdated. We received it free, and the City of LaCygne would like to purchase it for \$5,000.

Chief Kiser stated we need to have two patrol vehicles available for availability issues. He is asking for \$20,000 to add to the possible \$5,000 for a total of \$25,000 to use in the purchase of another Tahoe for the city. He stated he has a list of potential vehicles that are under that budget, but he would like a cushion for updates and equipment needs.

Plan A vehicle has 82,000 miles and is a 2016. The current Tahoe is a 2015. This vehicle would come fully equipped and has a cage. It is roughly \$21,000.

Plan B vehicle is a 2017 Tahoe with 102,000 miles. It is stripped of equipment and has no cage. The current cost is \$13,000 and after having the necessary equipment installed it would be \$19,000.

The Parker Police graphics on the current Tahoe were \$500 plus \$300 to install.

Chief Kiser stated he has a list of many possible vehicles, but these are the closest and best deals. Most of the other vehicles would require travel costs to retrieve.

City Treasurer Kathy Harrison said the current budget for the police department is as follows: \$2,000 for fuel, \$2,500 for repairs, and \$6,000 for supplies. This is the budget set for the year 2025. Anything over that will have to come out of capital outlay.

Mayor Jason Webber asked the council for a discussion regarding these issues.

Kandice Higgins stated that \$20,000 is a lot to come out of capital outlay. She also expressed concerns about being responsible to the citizens of Parker.

Kari Brandt asked Kathy Harrison what our capital outlay budget currently looks like. Kathy stated we currently have \$267,608.63 in capital outlay. She also stated we bring in around \$4000 to \$5000 a month from taxes, which is split between the general fund and capital outlay. Kathy also stated that the recent Axon and laptop purchases came out of capital outlay. Chief Kiser then reminded the council the Axon purchase would not come out until January 2025.

Chief Kiser said the police department operates at a very low expense even though it seems expensive. He said people have asked why Parker even has a police department. He said the residents of Parker benefit for a multitude of reasons. The county sheriff's office can't touch on animal issues or enforce city rules. They won't come to the city for long-term investigations. The amount of phone calls from Parker residents has dramatically been reduced compared to other small towns in Linn County.

Chief Kiser stated he is hoping this purchase will last for 10 years. He would like to have two equivalent vehicles for the police department to use.

Gary Earley asked what Chief Kiser's response time is for a call to the city. Kiser stated he could be here in 25 minutes for an emergency and 40 minutes for a non-emergency.

Kandice Higgins thinks we should sell the car, and the city should purchase the handgun for the department.

**Kandice Higgins motioned to allow up to \$500 for the purchase of a handgun for the city police department. Kari Brandt seconded the motion. It was carried 3 - 0.**

**Kandice Higgins motioned to sell the Ford Taurus to the City of LaCygne for \$5,000. Gary Earley seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.**

Mayor Webber stated he would like to have a budget for both the police department and maintenance department.

It was decided to table the discussion for the vehicle purchase until the budget workshop on December 5, 2024.

**Kari Brandt motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. Kandice Higgins seconded the motion which was carried 3-0.**

**Submitted by: Lisa Leach, City Clerk**

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