

MINUTES PARKER CITY COUNCIL
Parker Senior Center
423 W. Kimball, Parker, Kansas
August 8, 2024

Mayor Ashley Balthazor called the regular meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

PLEDGE AND PRAYER: The pledge was given, and Preston Harrison offered the prayer.

<u>ROLL CALL:</u> Ashley Balthazor, Mayor	Present
Jason Webber, President	Absent
Ivonne Clark, Council Member	Present
Kandice Higgins, Council Member	Present
Gary Earley, Council Member	Absent
Kari Brandt, Council Member	Present

ROLL CALL: Carrie Sewell, City Clerk, took the Roll.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL: Mayor Balthazor asked if the council had read the minutes from August 8, 2024, along with the bills for August 2024. Mayor Balthazor asked if there were any additions or corrections.

Kandice Higgins moved to approve the consent agenda. Ivonne Clark seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Mayor Balthazor asked for any additions to the agenda and approval. Ivonne Clark asked to add ditches to the agenda.

Kari Brandt moved to approve the agenda with the addition. Kandice Higgins seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

City Attorney, Geri Hartley, not present

City Treasurer, Kathy Harrison, gave the treasurer's report. Kathy went over the 2025 budget with the council. She asked if there were questions from the council and there were none. Treasurer Harrison reminded the council of the Revenue Neutral and 2025 Budget Hearings to be held prior to next month's council meeting at 7 p.m.

City Clerk, Carrie Sewell, reminded everyone about the Night Out Against Crime and asked for council members to attend.

Clerk Sewell informed the council that the school crosswalk sign that was acquired from the Wal-Mart grant had been placed.

Clerk Sewell informed the council that when Shaun West was here to place the crosswalk sign, she asked him to inspect the culvert on Center Avenue that is collapsing. He informed her that it is an emergent matter. The current condition is original limestone hand-laid rock is crumbling. Shaun provided the county engineer, Chad McCullough with Kaw Valley Engineering, contact information. Shaun stated that the engineering firm may honor the county's rate because the county has an interest in the roadway due to it connecting two county roads. Mr. West stated the city would be responsible for cost and materials but with approval from the commissioners, the county could make the repairs. Clerk Sewell contacted Mr. McCullough who stated should be able to come out next week to look at the issue. No action is needed by the council at this time but to be aware of this impending cost.

Clerk Sewell asked if the city would cover the cost of the notary fee for Lisa Leach, which is \$132.95.

Kandice Higgins motioned to approve the cost of the notary fee of \$132.95. Kari Brandt seconded the motion. It carried 3-0.

Police Chief, Craig Haley, and Cody Kiser addressed the council in the absence of Chief Haley. Officer Kiser asked if the resolutions regarding the new stop signs had been signed. Clerk Sewell stated the resolutions had been signed and the stop signs had been ordered.

Officer Kiser informed the council of Chief Haley's patrol car repair needs. It is currently at Miami County Auto and the estimated bill is \$1223.73. He also mentioned that the Tahoe is overheating and having possible issues.

Ivonne Clark motioned to approve the repairs for the patrol car at the cost of \$1223.73. Kari Brandt seconded the motion. It carried 3-0.

Officer Kiser presented a request for a license plate reader for the city. He got bids from 2 companies, Flock and Motorola Vigilant. The Motorola option was \$2395, which includes a solar-powered camera and mounting hardware, a phone app for 3 officers, a support system with alerts, and a 5-year support agreement. The Flock option was twice the cost, and the company maintains ownership of the camera system and must be contacted to move the system. Officer Kiser stated the benefit of the camera system is it will enhance the safety of the community and make it easier for the officers to be alerted to possible issues even while not in the community via the phone app system.

Ivonne Clark motioned to approve the license plate reader through Motorola Vigilant at the cost of \$2395. Kari Brandt seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a vote of 2-1. Kandice Higgins voted against the motion.

Maintenance, Logan Minden, noted he will be painting the crosswalk at the school on Tuesday, August 13th, weather permitting. He had nothing else to report.

Water and Sewer Contractor, Chad Page, not present

Compactor Operator, Al Kerr, nothing to report

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Balthazor asked for a 15-minute session to discuss non-elected personnel.

Kandice Higgins moved to go into executive session at 7:40 to discuss non-elected personnel and to return to the regular meeting in the Parker Senior Center at 7:55. Ivonne Clark seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.

Clerk Sewell was invited to join the executive session at 7:52 and left at 7:55.

Kandice Higgins moved to return to the regular council meeting at 7:55 in the Parker Senior Center. Kari Brandt seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.

Kari Brandt motioned to hire Lisa Leach as the new city clerk with the job description staying the same. Kandice Higgins seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Parker Day Donation: Clerk Sewell reported the council donated \$300 last year.

Kandice Higgins motioned to donate \$300 to Parker Days. Ivonne Clark seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.

Proclamation “Constitution Week”: Renee Slinkard spoke to the council about constitution week and asked the mayor to sign the proclamation. Constitution Week is September 17 through September 23

OLD BUSINESS:

Dangerous Structure: Clerk Sewell reported for Chief Haley. Chief Haley is in contact with the liaison for the structure and is working with her to get the issue resolved.

Culverts and ditches:

Kandice Higgins offered to provide the names of companies that have grants available for stormwater projects. She was unhappy with the decision made at the last council meeting to put out bids for engineers. She stated that she feels the only way we could do it is with grants.

Ivonne Clark is also concerned about costs. She would like to look over the survey results and address the concerns of the residents who responded.

Clerk Sewell suggested seeing who needs repairs, finding the budget needed, and moving forward from there.

Seeking bids from engineers was put on hold until further notice.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Oath of Office: Lisa Leach was sworn in as the new City/Court Clerk for the City of Parker.

At 8:10 p.m. Kari Brandt moved to adjourn. Kandice Higgins seconded the motion, and it carried 3-0.

Submitted by: Lisa Leach, City Clerk