

City of Preston

Regular City Council Meeting

January 27, 2025

Mayor, Tyler Sieverding called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

ROLL CALL: Present: Matt Gerardy, Dylan Meyer, Adam Reuter, Matt Petersen.

Absent: Jason Thomson

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheryl Ganzer, City Administrator/Clerk, Tracey Lee, Deputy Clerk, Police Chief, Chad Gruver and Fire Chief, Landon Ruchotzke.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by D. Meyer, seconded by M. Gerardy. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Including minutes of last meeting, Dishwasher and Refrigerator rebate – Travis Mickelson - \$100 and Annual Police Report for 2024. A motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was made by D. Meyer, seconded by A. Reuter. Motion carried.

JCEA Board Appointment: Ganzer's appointment for the past 2-year term expired December 31, 2024. A motion was made by A. Reuter to re-appoint Sheryl Ganzer to the JCEA Board. Seconded by M. Petersen. Motion carried.

2025 Dodge Durango Police SUV: Following the last Police Personnel meeting, Chief Gruver and Sheryl Ganzer worked on an option for purchasing a new squad car to replace the 2015 Ford. Gruver explained that the plan would be to purchase the vehicle upfront with an interfund loan from the Gas Utility Fund. A 2025 Dodge Durango is available currently at Galena Chrysler. After the Ford is stripped, they would receive \$3500 for trade in, which would be applied to the interfund loan as a downpayment. The balance of the loan would be re-paid to the gas fund in the amount of \$10,000 per year, with 1<sup>st</sup> payment being July 1, 2025, from the budgeted Police Capital Improvement fund until the loan is paid off. The cost of the SUV is \$44,031.00 and the estimate received for the upfitting is \$15,396.25 for the total amount of the interfund loan \$59,427.25. Council member Petersen commented that the use of our own funds makes the most sense to keep the cost of interest down. Petersen also reviewed how the police department has grown over the last year with the hiring of a second full time officer and the 28E agreements with the School and Miles, booted the need to upgrade the 2015 sooner than originally planned. Ganzer explained the steps to complete the interfund loan process through resolutions and budget amendments. A motion to approve moving forward with an interfund loan from the Gas Utility fund to the police fund for the purchase of a 2025 Dodge Durango was made by M. Petersen, seconded by D. Meyer. Motion carried.

Resolution 2024-18: A Resolution to make interfund loan from Gas Fund proceeds to Police Department. A. Reuter made a motion to approve, seconded by M. Gerardy. Motion carried.

Resolution 2024-19: A Resolution authorizing unbudgeted transfers and interfund loan repayments as required. M. Petersen made a motion to approve, seconded by D. Meyer. Motion carried.

West Street Lot Update: Tabled from last meeting for acquiring and recording of the original purchase agreement that by its terms bind successors in interests of the parties would be subject to the same requirements for excavation for the purpose of building a residential dwelling on the property. Both parties were made aware of the decision.

Resolution 2024-20: Discuss and consider approval of Cell Phone reimbursement for Full-Time utility employees. Ganzer explained that she researched and determined the reimbursement for the use of their personal phones for work-related calls would be a monthly payment ran through payroll as taxable income and IPERS exempt. D. Meyer made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-20 for Cell phone reimbursement at \$20 per month. Seconded by Gerardy. Motion carried, 3 Ayes, 1 Nay – M. Petersen.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Utility Dept Updates: Water Dept had 3 more water main breaks which they needed to bring outside help for digging up the street to make repairs. Ganzer will review in the budget workshop proposal to purchase a new skid loader with accessories needed to assist all departments. ‘

Backhoe inspection has been completed. The estimate for replacing hoses and gaskets including labor totaled \$3126.40. This is in addition to the cost of new tires previously discussed. The Council gave the ok to proceed with repairs.

ADJOURNMENT: With no other business to be discussed, Sieverding asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by M. Petersen, second by D. Meyer. Motion carried to adjourn the regular meeting with Budget Workshop to follow at 6:42 pm.

  
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Tyler Sieverding, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Sheryl Ganzer, City Administrator/Clerk