

MINUTES PARKER CITY COUNCIL  
Regular Meeting  
Parker Community Building  
432 W. Kimball, Parker, Kansas  
**January 8, 2026**

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

**PLEDGE AND PRAYER:** The pledge was given, and Mayor Webber offered the prayer.

**Oaths of Office:** City Clerk Lisa Leach gave Oaths of Office to Council Members Carrie Sewell, Stacia Minden, and Kari Brandt.

**ROLL CALL:** Clerk Leach took the Roll.

Jason Webber, Mayor	<b>Present</b>
Kari Brandt, Council Member	<b>Present</b>
Meranda Ellison, Council Member	<b>Present</b>
Joe Godfrey, Council Member	<b>Present</b>
Stacia Minden, Council Member	<b>Present</b>
Carrie Sewell, Council Member	<b>Present</b>

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL:** Mayor Webber asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

**Meranda Ellison moved to approve the consent agenda as written. Kari Brandt seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Roger Sims asked when the city will conduct its reorganization, such as appointing the official city newspaper and establishing general accounting principles. No response was given at that time. Mr. Sims asked the City to include the Linn County Journal as an official newspaper for the City, in addition to Linn County News. He stated the Journal's website receives, on average, 230 visitors a day and that it is a member of the Kansas Press Association. Council Member Carrie Sewell asked about the cost of an ad in his paper. Mr. Sims stated that the cost for an average-sized ad would be \$30 per week.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Mayor Webber asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

**Kari Brandt made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**City Attorney, Lindsey Kolisch,** introduced herself to the new council members. She reported there were three cases on the Municipal Court docket. One case was resolved

prior to the court session, one defendant failed to appear, and one defendant appeared and a resolution was reached.

**City Treasurer Kathy Harrison** gave the monthly Treasurer's Report.

**City Clerk Lisa Leach**

- Reported the light pole at the Library had been removed at no cost to the Library or the City.
- Informed the Council the updated Governing Body Handbooks are available at a cost of \$46 each, with two free copies being sent to the city. She wanted to know if the Council wanted the new copies ordered. The Council opted to use the copies they already have from 2024, and to give the new copies to the newest council members.
- Informed the Council that a KORA/KOMA class is being held in LaCygne and is available for the Council to attend. The Council opted to do the webinar individually on their own time.

**Chief of Police Chris Lee:** asked if an executive session could be called to discuss personal issues with the Council. Mayor Webber agreed and said they would do so later in the meeting.

**Maintenance James Hazelet**

- Reported the new mower deck is on and ready to go.
- Informed the Council that a salt spreader was obtained. It attaches to the city truck on the hitch and may hold up to 5 bags of rock salt. He stated there are 33 intersections in the city, of which the county takes care of 10. He estimates it will cost roughly \$80 per storm to salt the intersections only. He has already bought 10 bags of salt to prepare for upcoming storms. It was suggested that it may be possible to purchase bags of salt from Sam's Club for under \$10 a bag.
- Informed the Council he has been cutting back on his hours during the winter season.
- Expressed his concern about office personnel after the incident at Lawrence City Hall recently. He would like some sort of alarm system to call for assistance, if needed.

**Water and Sewer Contractor Chad Page** was not present.

**Compactor Operator Al Kerr** stated the compactor is working well. He asked if there is a way to get a sign that prohibits the use of jake brakes put up at the entrances to town. Mayor Webber stated that it would be an ordinance issue. A question was asked about the possibility of a cardboard container. Mayor Webber stated that the city needs to contact the county again.

**Park Board:** no report.

**Planning and Zoning:** Administrator Leach informed the Council that an in-town board member resigned from the board today, January 8, 2026. Mayor Webber stated he will look into replacements.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Bids for Community Building and City Hall Repairs:** Mayor Webber responded to the initial question about possible county fund contributions to the repairs by saying he had spoken to a county administrator. The administrator told him a proposal could be submitted but it is unlikely to be approved. Mayor Webber said he is concerned about possible mold at City Hall, so he feels it should be a priority. In his discussions with county employees, he learned if the gutters are kept clean on the Community Building, then leaks are at a minimum and the repairs are more cosmetic. He asked the Council if they were interested in repairs for City Hall only at this time. There was much discussion. The decision was to reach out to all previous bidders and offer the following new proposal. City Hall roof replacement: New roof with 26 gauge minimum thickness to include new gutters and downspouts. The Council was in agreement that a new roof would be the best way to prolong the building integrity.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Calendar of Events for 2026:** Clerk Leach read the tentative calendar outlining events that will happen in the City in 2026.

## **Goals for 2026:**

-Council Member Ellison stated her goals for the year are to go over the ordinance book and to push specific issues residents have.

-Mayor Webber asked everyone to send him ideas to develop.

-Council Member Sewell said she would like to get the community involved to see what they would like to see happen in Parker. Possibly a Facebook post inviting opinions or doing a survey/poll without comments. Treasurer Harrison suggested putting a survey into the water bills. Sewell also asked about city infrastructure and how do we improve it. She specifically mentioned water, sewers, sidewalks, and roads. Others agreed that sidewalks are a big issue.

**Workshop for Ordinances:** The issue was discussed and the first workshop to review Chapters 1 and 2 of the Code Book will be on Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at the Community Building.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**Kari Brandt motioned to go into executive session for 7 minutes at 8:01 p.m. to discuss matters relating to non-elected personnel. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.**

**Kari Brandt moved to come out of executive session with no action taken at 8:08 p.m. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.**

**Kari Brandt moved to go into executive session at 8:10 p.m. for 10 minutes to discuss matters relating to non-elected personnel, and to include Kathy Harrison and Lindsey Kolisch. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.**

**Kari Brandt moved to come out of executive session at 8:20 p.m. with action being taken. The Police Chief is cutting his working hours down to 20 hours per month. He will hire one additional officer to work up to 20 hours per month with pay up to \$23 per hour. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.**

Clerk Leach was instructed to run an ad for a new police officer.

**City Phone for Codes Enforcement:** Clerk Leach informed the Council of the need for the Codes Enforcement Official to have a city-issued cell phone to make and receive phone calls to residents at need. The issue was discussed.

**Joe Godfrey moved to purchase a cell phone for the City Codes Enforcement Official. Meranda Ellison seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.**

**Kari Brandt moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted by: Lisa Leach, City Clerk**