MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING PARKER CITY COUNCIL

Parker Senior Center 423 Kimball St., Parker, Kansas **February 6, 2025**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a prayer was given by Police Chief Cody Kiser at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Jason Webber called the special meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Jason Webber, Mayor	Present
Kari Brandt, Council President	Absent
Gary Earley, Member	Present
Kandice Higgins, Member	Present
Joe Godfrey, Member	Present
Meranda Ellison, Member	Present

Mayor Jason Webber started the meeting with a speech to the council and city residents regarding past meetings, how meetings will be held, and asking for the residents to allow the council to get things worked out.

Old Business: Clerk Leach answered a previous question regarding the position of Codes Enforcement Official and if the position is not filled, who will be responsible for that duty. The council will be able to make decisions *or delegate a person to make decisions*** in the absence of that role being filled.

Kandice Higgins motioned to accept the Floodplain Ordinance 485. Gary Earley seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

Police Department:

Gary Earley made a motion to go into an executive session to discuss personnel matters with the city attorney for 20 minutes at 6:43 p.m. Kandice Higgins seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Kandice Higgins motioned to come out of executive session at 7:03. Gary Earley seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

Mayor Jason Webber stated that the action from the executive session was the council's discussion of removing Cody Kiser from the position of Chief of Police of Parker and the Parker Police Department.

Gary Earley made a motion to remove Cody Kiser from the Parker Police Department. Kandice Higgins seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 -1 with Meranda Ellison dissenting.

Gary Earley has requested workshops to address expectations, budgets, and salaries for the Parker Police Department. The goal is to provide a platform for officers to present their counter-proposals, facilitating an agreement between the council and the police department.

Mayor Webber stated he would speak with the remaining officers and appoint an interim chief at the next meeting, with the council's approval.

Sheriff Akes answered questions from the council and residents regarding coverage from the Sheriff's Department for the City of Parker, specifically about emergency calls and whether Parker needs a police department.

Sheriff Akes stated having a police department is up to the city. He said he has 2 officers on duty each day and night. The Sheriff's Department will not enforce city ordinances, but daily patrols will be conducted if officers are available. Response time to calls varies depending on location and current availability of officers on duty.

He stated Parker, like Blue Mound, is a tri-corner of counties and receives a wide range of traffic driving through town from different cities and states. Sheriff Akes stated Parker is not a problem, but the area is a problem as a whole because we touch three different counties in a small area.

Gary Earley motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. Kandice Higgins seconded the motion which was carried 4-0.

Submitted by: Lisa Leach, City Clerk