

MINUTES PARKER CITY COUNCIL
Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing
2026 Budget Hearing
Regular Meeting
Parker Community Building
432 W. Kimball, Parker, Kansas
September 11, 2025

REVENUE NEUTRAL RATE HEARING: Mayor Jason Webber called the Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing to order at 7:01 p.m. City Treasurer Kathy Harrison read Resolution No. 2025-01, a resolution to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate, which was calculated at 27.47 mills for the City of Parker.

No public comments were offered.

A roll call vote was conducted, and the Resolution passed with a 3-0 vote, with Kandice Higgins and Gary Earley absent.

The Revenue Neutral Hearing was adjourned at 7:03 pm.

2026 BUDGET HEARING: Mayor Jason Webber called the 2026 Budget Hearing to order at 7:03 p.m. City Treasurer Kathy Harrison read the proposed 2026 budget. Harrison explained that the City is proposing a mill levy of 32.74, with each mill valued at \$1,715.00 due to the increase in the City’s assessed valuation. Harrison asked if there were any questions; none were presented.

There was no public comment.

Kari Brandt motioned to accept the 2026 Budget as presented. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

The budget hearing was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

REGULAR MEETING: Mayor Jason Webber called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

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

<u>ROLL CALL:</u> Jason Webber, Mayor	Present
Kari Brandt, President	Present
Kandice Higgins, Council Member	Absent
Gary Earley, Council Member	Absent
Joe Godfrey, Council Member	Present
Meranda Ellison, Council Member	Present

ROLL CALL: Lisa Leach, City Clerk, took the Roll.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL: Mayor Webber asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, and if any discussion was needed.

Kari Brandt motioned to approve the consent agenda. Meranda Ellison seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Mayor Webber requested that the city judge position be added to the agenda.

Kari Brandt made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the City Judge position. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

City Attorney was not present.

City Treasurer Kathy Harrison gave the monthly treasurer's report.

City Clerk Lisa Leach

- Reported that Randy Hegwald, Linn County Emergency Management Director, conducted a walk-through of City Hall and the Community Building as requested. He recommended replacing the deadbolt and changing the front door at City Hall so that it swings outward, in compliance with fire code. He also reminded staff to perform monthly checks of the City Hall fire extinguisher. At the Community Building, Hegwald recommended illuminated exit signs at the front and rear doors, installation of a panic handle on the front door, and relocation of the fire extinguishers, which are currently mounted too high and not in proper locations. He further noted that the building's occupancy limit must be posted. Lastly, Hegwald suggested the city consider installing a permanent natural gas generator to ensure power during outages, as the Community Building serves as a designated warming/cooling center.
- Updated the council about the upcoming Night Out Against Crime event on October 3rd. Clerk Leach stated she had confirmed with the sheriff department, emergency management, and the local fire department to ensure their presence at the event. She shared that there will be face painting and yard games to entertain the residents. She asked if door prizes could be purchased to encourage more people to attend.

Kari Brandt motioned to allow \$125 for the purchase of door prizes for the event. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- Clerk Leach offered the option of hot dogs or tacos as meal options for the event. Tacos were the choice, and Council Member Brandt offered to donate the beef.
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Kari Brandt motioned to allow up to \$200 for the meal to be provided for the event. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

- Clerk Leach informed the council that D&D Propane said they would price match with all other companies except for Ferrellgas.

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Meranda Ellison motioned to keep Ferrellgas if the price of \$1.35 a gallon is still valid. Kari Brandt seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Chief of Police Chris Lee reported the ORI (Originating Agency Identifier) had expired, and he is working to get it reinstated. He informed the council that he has responded to several calls already.

Maintenance James Hazelet informed the council that the new trailer is coming in handy. He used it to take the skid steer to the lake to clear brush. He let the council know the mower decks had both been welded, and one had broken more. Hazelet feels we are at the point where one deck needs to be purchased before the next mowing season. He also stated the dam at the lake is very rutted and dangerous to mow. He plans to burn it off next year.

Mower Deck issue was discussed, as well as the quote from R&R Equipment for \$696.10 with \$100 added for freight charge. Hazelet stated he is willing to do the installation himself this winter to save the estimated charge of \$768.00 for installation. Councilman Godfrey asked if the wheels came with the deck and if they needed to be replaced as well. Hazelet stated they do not come with the deck, but he didn't think they needed to be replaced yet. Hazelet also stated that both mowers had new blades in the spring.

Kari Brandt motioned to purchase the new mower deck from R&R Equipment with the added freight charge for \$796.10. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Water and Sewer Contractor Chad Page was not present.

Compactor Operator Al Kerr reported that the compactor is running well after repairs. He stated he had the same container for 5 days, and it was still not full. Mayor Webber added that the county had reported to him that the last container had 7 ½ tons, which was the most emptied from Parker in over 2 years.

Park Board: no report.

Planning and Zoning: no report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Building: Mayor Webber would like to do a facelift of the building. There is rust on the metal siding, and the front door could be replaced. The roof needs to be looked at as well. Al Kerr suggested the Amish in Garnett as possible contractors.

Councilman Meranda Ellison stated she would like some bids. It was decided that the emergency lighting and the roof are priorities.

Kari Brandt motioned to ask for bids to reskin the Parker Community Building, including the roof. Meranda Ellison seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Lighting Replacement Cost for City Hall: Clerk Leach reported that the previous quote from ROI Energy for new lighting installation was incorrect. The revised quote is \$1,826, rather than \$786. The lights themselves will still be provided at no cost to the city, and the city may hire its own contractors for the installation; however, Evergy has established a timeline that must be followed, although she wasn't sure at the time what that would be. Councilman Ellison stated she would attempt to find a base quote for installation costs. The issue is tabled until more information is gathered.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 488 – Open Records/KORA Update

Kari Brandt moved to adopt Ordinance 488. Meranda Ellison seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Ordinance 489 – Boats on City Lake

Kari Brandt moved to adopt Ordinance 489. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Ordinance 490 – 2025 Standard Traffic Ordinance for Kansas Cities, 52nd Edition

Kari Brandt moved to adopt Ordinance 490. Meranda Ellison seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ordinance 491 – 2025 Uniform Public Offense Code for Kansas Cities, 41st Edition

Kari Brandt moved to adopt Ordinance 491. Meranda Ellison seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Municipal Judge: Mayor Webber stated the current Parker Municipal Judge, Doug Barlet, was retiring and that he has been looking for a replacement. He stated he had many recommendations for John Purvis. Mayor Webber spoke with Purvis and informed the council that Purvis is asking for \$250 per month, but only asked for payment if the court was in session. Jason is asking for the council's approval of his appointment of John Purvis as the new Parker Municipal Judge.

Meranda Ellison motioned to approve the appointment of John Purvis to the role of Parker Municipal Judge. Kari Brandt seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Kari Brandt motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 pm. Joe Godfrey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Submitted by: Lisa Leach, City Clerk