

KINDRED CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
01-25-2021 at 7:00pm – Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Board Present: Mayor DuBord, CMs Spelhaug, Amerman, Stoddard, and Peraza.
Others present: PWS Rich Schock, City Auditor Tabitha Arnaud, and Jan Russell.

Meeting called to order at 7:06pm.

1. Street Equipment

Mayor DuBord opened the floor to Rich. Rich informed the council that the red dodge pick up truck has been having maintenance issues. Over the last year, it has burned through multiple batteries and alternators. This week it simply wouldn't start and took some convincing before operating again. After having a few people look at it, it is possibly the ECM (engine control module) that is going bad. This is the computer of the vehicle and without it the vehicle will not start. An estimate for replacement is \$3000-\$5000.

Since hiring a second full-time public works employee, there has been discussion of getting a second city truck. Currently, they are riding together, dropping one another off at work locations, or use the Ranger (weather permitting). If needed, they will use their personal trucks as back up. Having a second truck would make errands and job duties more efficient.

Discussion on costs/benefits of used pickups versus new pickups. A used ¾ ton truck with 150K-200K miles is about \$25K; same with 75K-100K miles is about \$32K-\$35K. Peraza shared a 2019 with 85K miles is about \$34K. Brand new trucks are selling for \$35K-\$38K with government discounts. Also discussed whether to purchase to new/used vehicles or to purchase one new/used and repair the red truck. The red is a 2007 truck, has about 250K miles on it, purchased it for less than \$11K in early 2018, using other city truck as trade. Resale now would probably only yield between \$10K-\$12K, so its asset value is likely greater than that. Repairing and continuing to use this would be best, while looking to purchase one additional truck.

Discussion on funds to use: Street fund balance is about \$170K, and was used for the payload purchase/down payment. Splitting between water and sewer funds would be a good fit, since primary use is running the check/inspect those service lines, lift stations, and lagoons as well as deliver supplies/testing materials. Those funds have about \$300K and \$280K, respectively.

Council opinions:

DuBord: New vehicles are not typically a personal choice, but if government discounts are available it would be worth researching.

Stoddard: Repairing the red truck and looking for a used as a secondary would be preferred.

Amerman: Spending \$35K-\$40K for a new truck and repairing the red truck for around \$5K would be acceptable.

Spelhaug: Agrees with repairing the red truck and buying a new truck around \$35K is reasonable.

Peraza: Agrees with Amerman that spending \$35K-\$40K for a new truck and repairing the red truck is best option.

**MOTION – To approve purchase of new pickup between \$35K-\$40K splitting between water & sewer funds, and repairing the 2007 pickup as needed;
Peraza moved, Spelhaug seconded. RCV: Yes = Spelhaug, Amerman, Peraza; No = Stoddard;
Motion Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.

Tabitha Arnaud, City Auditor

Jason DuBord, Mayor

Date approved