



BETHANY POLICE DEPARTMENT

6714 NW 36TH STREET ♦ P.O. Box 1340
BETHANY, OKLAHOMA 73008
PHONE: 405.789.2323 ♦ FAX: 405.789.5015

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

March 1, 2022

Reference: Police Department Vehicle Fleet

I would like to take this opportunity to update the City Council and citizens on the current status of the Police Department Vehicle Fleet. The Police Department currently has a total of 36 vehicles in its fleet. We have a total of 30 police officers when at full capacity this includes administration. A take home vehicle is assigned to each officer after they complete their first year of service with the Bethany Police Department. The take home program is an excellent tool for recruiting and retaining officers. The take home program is also covered by the FOP contract. The take-home program also increases response times when officers are called in for an emergency. This will also eliminate all of the police vehicles being in one location and possibly damaged due to weather, vandalism, etc. We have two Animal Welfare Officers. Two of the vehicles are assigned to Animal Welfare. The Animal Welfare vehicles are not take-home vehicles. Two of the vehicles are motorcycles assigned to the traffic units.

Currently twelve of the police departments fleet have over 100,000 miles on them. 100,000 miles on a police vehicle is a considerable amount of miles. Police vehicle miles are much different than privately owned vehicles. Police vehicles are expected to withstand more abuse due to the type of work police officers due. Police vehicles with 100,000 miles are considered to be at the end of their life cycle as a police unit. The cost of keeping the vehicles going after 100,000 miles significantly rises. As you recall in the 2021 budget year we were unable to purchase any patrol vehicles. The inability to purchase vehicles in 2021 really puts us behind on keeping the fleet from exceeding the 100,000 mile mark. We normally would purchase 3 new cars per budget year. We would spend approximately \$90,000 for the vehicles. We would than spend another \$30,000 equipping the vehicles. This would total approx. \$120,000 per budget year for vehicles. I would also like to remind you that patrol vehicles are purchased using the Impound Fee Account. We do not purchase a new patrol vehicle until the money is available in the impound account. The funds in this account are designated for the police department to use to purchase patrol equipment. We have always used these funds for purchasing patrol vehicles and equipment. When a new vehicle is purchased we select the patrol vehicle that is in the worst mechanical condition to put down. We always put a vehicle down when a new vehicle is purchased. The downed vehicle is than parked at Public Works until the next city auction is held. When we put a vehicle down the vehicle is worth very little. What ever money is received at auction will go to the general fund.

The police department asked for and was approved to buy 4 used police vehicles from the State of Kansas Highway Patrol. These units are Dodge Durango's with less than 50,000 miles on them. The vehicles also already come with the emergency equipment installed. We have to spend very little money on them to have them ready to put in service. These vehicles cost approximately

\$29,350. So, we are purchasing 4 used patrol vehicles already equipped for \$117,400. This allows us to purchase 4 vehicles for less than we were purchasing 3 brand new ones and equipping them. I believe this shows that we are being vigilant on the spending of tax payers money when purchasing police vehicles. This purchase that we are asking for approval tonight will be the forth and final vehicle purchase for this budget year. I also plan to ask for approval in next years budget to purchase 4 more Kansas Highway Patrol vehicles. This will help us try and make up for 2021 when we were unable to purchase any vehicles.

Currently the Bethany Police Department is approved for 30 officers. Several officers have retired and resigned in the past couple of years. This has caused us to work short handed. Currently we have two new recruits in the CLEET Academy. We also have two positions that need to be hired to get us to full capacity. We currently have officers work 10 hour shifts. There are three shifts, (Days, Evenings, Midnights). We normally have 7 officers assigned to each shift. Lately this has not been the case. We normally try and schedule so there are at least 4 officers on the street during each shift. We also have an overlap in the late afternoon into the early evening hours. So, this will increase the number on the street during the overlap to approx. 6 to 8 officers.