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Auburn Council Discusses Future of Law Enforcement in City

(KLZA) The Auburn City Council spent a good portion of their meeting time this week discussing law enforcement options.

Auburn Mayor Scott Kudrna discussed the recent resignation of Police Chief Kris Baker. (play audio :23 seconds)

Baker has been the Chief for nearly two years, taking over after Mayor Kudrna took office in 2010 and the number of officers on the Auburn Police Department was cut from six to four.

In a closed session, the Auburn Council discussed the job performance of the Police Department and some rumors about criminal misconduct. Mayor Kudrna commented. (play audio :22 seconds)

With the resignation, the Auburn City Council is weighing if they should hire a new Chief of Police, or contract with the Nemaha County, Nebraska Sheriff's Department for law enforcement services. (play audio :26 seconds)

Currently the City of Auburn budgets \$405,000 for law enforcement for the year. The estimated cost savings amounts to \$122,000.

Mayor Kudrna says there are a number of things that need to be included if the City decides to contract with the County. (play audio :32 seconds)

The Mayor expects the Sheriff's Department would hire more personnel if a contract arrangement is agreed upon. (play audio :22 seconds)

Some have suggested that Mayor Kudrna has been wanting to go with a law enforcement contract since he took office. He refuted that idea while commenting on the pros and cons of such an agreement. (play audio :50 seconds)

Mayor Kudrna said the Auburn Council will meet in special session on Monday night to further discuss law enforcement options. (play audio :34 seconds)

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