

Hiawatha Police to begin updating patrol fleet

**(KNZA)--The Hiawatha Police Department will begin the process of updating its aging patrol fleet.**

**Police Chief Mickey Gruber appeared before the Hiawatha City Commission Monday evening to request approval to purchase two new patrol vehicles.**

**The Department currently has eight vehicles in its fleet, with an average age of ten years and average mileage of around 105,000.**

**On the recommendation of Gruber, the Commission approved the purchase of a 2022 Dodge Durango from Supervisor Emergency Response Vehicle, of Andover, in the amount of \$49,509, plus the purchase of a radio, in-car camera system and radar unit for the vehicle for an additional charge. In addition, the commission approved the purchase of a 2016 Dodge Charger from the Sac and Fox Police Department in the amount of \$17,000, and the purchase of the in-car camera system. The total cost for the vehicles and equipment is not to exceed \$82,700.**

**Gruber said there is funding available in his 2022 budget to cover the cost.**

**He said the purchases will greatly improve the overall reliability of their fleet of vehicles.**

**Gruber would also like to purchase a new patrol vehicle after the first of the year, with funding available in the 2023 budget.**

**In other business, the Commission approved an early retirement agreement with longtime Waste Water Superintendent Dave Grimm. Grimm's last day with the city will be January 3, 2023.**

Many Signals Communications