

Memo



To: Munster Town Council
From: Chief of Police Stephen Scheckel
Date: October 6, 2025
Re: Annual Squad Car Purchase

As part of the Police Department's budget narrative for 2026 we are requesting to purchase five (5) new vehicles to replace those that are aging out of the fleet. To keep the department's current Take Home Vehicle program with the lowest mileage vehicles, we would like to trade-in older pool and VIPs vehicles with high mileage. We are looking to purchase four (4) SUV's and one (1) pick-up truck. The vehicles identified for trade-in are listed below, along with their mileage and year:

Squad #13 (2017) - 78,196 miles
Squad #14 (2015) - 86,944 miles
Squad #32 (2021) - 80,628 miles
Squad #38 (2020) - 81,607 miles
Squad #40 (2020) - 97,951 miles

We project the total cost to purchase these vehicles to be approximately \$120,000.00 per vehicle, for a total of \$600,000.00. In 2024, a 2025 Ford Interceptor SUV cost \$50,882.25 for the vehicle, and \$59,912.64 in ancillary equipment to outfit it. A 2024 Ford Interceptor pickup cost \$50,100.25 for the vehicle, and the cost of ancillary equipment was comparable to the SUV's. This does not take into account the trade-in value of the squads turned in and estimates the increased cost of vehicles and equipment.

Recommendation

By motion and voice vote, authorize the Police Department to purchase five (5) vehicles in 2026. The Clerk Treasurer's Office will need to identify a funding source, though we suggest TIF funds if possible to avoid possible high interest rates.