

MAYOR'S MESSAGE
Craig A. Stough 1/19/2023

"New Sylvania Police Vehicles"

The City of Sylvania has taken delivery of two new replacement police vehicles. The 2022 Ford Police Inceptor Utility vehicles were ordered under State of Ohio contract through Bauman (formerly Matthews) Ford in Oregon in 2021 as complete package vehicles. Complete package means all equipment is installed as well as vehicle graphics applied. Supply issues delayed the delivery of these vehicles until the end of 2022.

The new cruisers will be equipped with an all blue emergency light bar. A 2004 Florida Highway patrol study and a 2008 University of Michigan study found blue lights are more effective than red (or white, yellow). There has been a trend across Ohio for police agencies to change to all blue lights. Both the Ohio State Highway Patrol and Toledo Police utilize all blue light bars. We will have a few red lights on the front and sides of the cruisers to comply with state law.

Of the two vehicles purchased, one will take on the traditional look of the Sylvania Police cruisers being black with white doors and a light bar on the roof, while the other vehicle will be a "stealth" style. Sylvania Police have had a sedan of this style in our fleet for many years, you may have seen this in parades and around the city. The new vehicle will be an SUV style and still maintain the "stealth" look. The vehicle will be all black with black reflective graphics that match the graphics on the patrol vehicles. Instead of a light bar on top of the vehicle, all lights will be concealed inside the vehicle.

These new police vehicles replace two 10-year-old vehicles, one with over 120,000 miles on its odometer. Police vehicles receive hard usage, often idling or driving at low stop and go speeds. Twenty years ago, the police vehicles were replaced every two years. Over the years, however, we have been able to extend their useful lives to more than double that. While both of these vehicles have aged out of the road patrol fleet, the city recognizes that they still have value and use to the city and will be repurposed into other divisions of the police fleet and city fleet.

Both of these new vehicles will be receiving dashboard mounted cameras that are compatible with the officer's body cameras. New Panasonic Mobile Data Terminals were purchased last year and will be installed in these two vehicles as well.

City of Sylvania Mayor, Craig Stough and Sylvania Police Chief, Danilynn Miller

