Atchison Approves New Street Sweeper Purchase (KAIR)--The Atchison City Commission has approved the purchase of a new street sweeper that is set to replace the aging machine currently in use.

City Public Works and Utilities Director Justin Pregont says the old machine had too many limitations for it to continue to be of any use. The limited payload capacity meant that 2-3 workers would have to be running truckloads of waste back to be disposed. The old sweeper also had a top speed of twelve miles per hour, which Pregont says is a real limitation.

Pregont says the new sweeper has a bigger payload capacity and better visibility for its operator. It also boasts other features that could make cleaning city streets even more efficient including a wandering third broom. This broom can reach into harder to reach places such a highway median. It is also its own self contained machine and runs on a single engine, which can go a long way towards cutting down on maintenance costs.

Pregont says the \$199,000 sweeper will be leased for an annual payment of approximately \$42,000 for five years, and is scheduled to arrive by the end of the month.

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