

GENERAL REPORT
APRIL 11, 2017

1. The rezoning issue is the only major thing listed on your agenda. I am enclosing all the information that was considered by the Planning Commission along with the extensive set of minutes Susan took at their hearing.

As you read the minutes, you will note concerns as to what type of businesses can locate in a O-I zoned area. I am sending you a copy of what can be located there at the present time. Two (2) citizen letters are also enclosed. The Planning Commission plans to meet on April 18 to have a work-study session on O-I uses and to receive recommendations from city staff as to what should be allowed.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend to the City Commission that the properties be rezoned from R-2 to O-I. The vote was five (5) ayes and one (1) abstention.

2. I am working to pull together a group of city employees who would be willing to help with the fireworks display this year. Our role would be to take donations at the north lake and ball complex. Several organizations have been asked but no one wants to take the financial risk. A statement was made at the joint commission meeting that perhaps some transient guest tax funds could be used. The county commissioners said they had received a letter from the Chamber requesting financial assistance so I contacted one of them to see if they would be willing to donate funds. They will discuss this request at their meeting Monday, April 10th.

3. I have contacted the city's Blue Cross/Blue Shield agent about the possibility of the city and county forming a combined group for insurance purposes.

4. Spring clean-up begins on Monday, April 10th. Farrel anticipates that a great deal of "stuff" will appear in the alleys and along the right-of-ways after all the Saturday garage sales are over. In an effort to get ahead, street crews have already hauled a large amount of brush and leaves to the city's dump site.

5. Very busy week-end ahead in Garnett. Go-kart races, livestock show, garage and sidewalk sales and juried art show opening at the Walker Art Gallery.

PROJECT UPDATE REPORT

A. Electric line along Walnut Street – Nothing new to report.

B. Water Plant – Continue to work on grant application with Kansas Rural Water.

C. Outflow Meter – waiting on device.

D. Water rights – providing additional information to the Kansas Department of Water Resources on the size of pumps that feed water to the power plant engines when they are running.

E. Street repair – need to decide if a leveling course will be done this year on selected streets then request county road crews to do chip and seal in a year or two. Road measurements have been provided to the county commissioners. We would like to do Neosho Road, Monroe and Hickory streets and others this year.

F. Personnel policies – Terry hasn't had any time to work on these and probably won't until the city manager replacement process is completed.

G. Skate park – Jeremy's report.

H. Sidewalks – One new item to report on this subject. At the city/county meeting it was suggested that the sidewalk along the one way be removed and replaced with a "green" area. New curbs would be installed the entire length of this block. We are waiting on a cost estimate to do this project.

I. AWOS – Pat Schettler will report on this at the Airport Advisory meeting Monday night.

J. Advisory Boards – still need one person each for Airport, Foundation and Economic Development Boards. Continue to contact possible candidates but not much luck so far. Everyone is too busy or just plain worn out from helping other organizations.

K. New playground – I will meet with the Hospital Foundation Board on Tuesday, April 11 to explain the Garnett Community Foundation project through the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas offered by BC/BS.

L. South bound turn lane on Highway 59 – KDOT is ready for this project to be bid. Engineers will have bid opening here at city hall on Friday, May 19, 2017 so results can be discussed at the May 23rd meeting.

M. Some decision needs to be made about the area below the spillway at the North Lake. I have contacted the engineer and asked him to come to Garnett to see if there is some interim repairs or clean-up we can make before a permanent solution is decided and carried through. I imagine you will want to defer any final decision to the new manager.

N. Jay Norco has received information back from KDHE about the nutrient removal process at the wastewater treatment plant. KDHE is asking for a detailed engineering report and plans to proceed with the design and construction. The price for the Tier 1 improvement is estimated to be \$320,000 - \$350,000. Jay is recommending that the city should begin planning for the financing and construction now. The NPDES permit expires in 2019 so Jay believes everything should be ready to start at that time. Again, I imagine you will want to defer this to the new manager.

Please let me know if any additional information is needed.

#

#

#