



City Manager's Report

March 12th, 2019

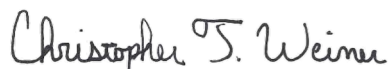
Honorable Mayor Gwin and City Commissioners Brecheisen-Huss and Cole,

The past couple of weeks have been busy as usual as we've continued to fight the weather. It appears as if we might finally be seeing a shift toward warmer weather. As you know, these challenges have caused significant damage to our streets due to the continual freeze/thaw cycle we have seen. Our staff is out as we speak trying to address the significant number of potholes we have and will be continuing to make this the priority for the remainder of the week. We held our first Community Champions event this evening and I would like to thank Susan Wettstein for dreaming this idea up and putting it all together. I believe this event was and will continue to be an excellent opportunity to showcase our wonderful committees and volunteer organizations, as well as the people who make them up. I've talked to a couple of firms regarding our required cultural resources survey for the water treatment plant and it will thankfully be significantly less money than I previously stated. The cost should be under \$4,000 rather than the \$35,000 - \$40,000 I mentioned at our last meeting. I have also been working with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism regarding building the new water plant. Due to our parks having received federal resources for improvements in the past, they are a part of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and require us to jump through some hoops to use protected park land for anything other than parks. City Clerk Wilson, City Attorney Solander, and I met with our insurance provider regarding our insurance renewal for this year as well as swimming in our lakes and the disc golf special event insurance concerns. Our insurance underwriters have suggested a potentially cheaper option than what the disc golf club has mentioned but we are still investigating this and working with the Disc Golf Club on a potential solution.

We took a trip last Friday down to Columbus to participate in the First Impressions program and I am excited to see the results from this program. This information should give us valuable insight as to the view outsiders have of our community when they drive through. We can utilize this information in the development of our own comprehensive strategic development plan. We have received notice that we will receive reimbursement for some of our costs incurred due to the significant rain event and flooding from October of last year. I don't expect to receive much in this case but I would still like to thank our staff and the Anderson County Director of Emergency Management, JD Mersman, for all of the work it took to compile this information and submit the request for assistance. I've met a few times with a couple of employee committees we have established trying to find a pay scale structure and a establish a sick leave bank. We are also going to have health insurance and safety committees starting to meet and bring value to the organization. I've been continuing to work on the 2020 budget and am looking into a safety and training program through Kansas Municipal Utilities (KMU) for our staff. We have also been working with Utility Service Partners (USP) to try and come to an agreement on having them provide private utility service insurance to our local residents. Through this program, assuming we can get it all worked out, we will educate our residents and businesses regarding their responsibilities and hopefully reduce or eliminate the number of claims for damages we see as homeowners will have insurance specifically to cover many of these cases. The architects for the police department remodel will be here for their presentation at the March 26th meeting.

The agenda for this meeting is fairly light with just the bills and consideration of the request for funding from the Garnett Area Paint Project. As always, please let me know if you have any questions and I appreciate the opportunity to serve you and this wonderful Garnett community as City Manager.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher T. Weiner".

Christopher T. Weiner, City Manager