



City Manager's Report

May 28th, 2019

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

Over the past week, I've been meeting with department heads on their budget needs for 2020 and I have almost half of the preliminary budget proposal drafted. Last week we also held the first of planned annual emergency operations planning exercises to better prepare ourselves in the event of a disaster. This meeting included all City department heads and I would also like to thank Anderson County Emergency Management Director J.D. Mersman and Anderson County Hospital Staff for sitting in and participating in the tabletop exercise. I am continuing to work with Mr. Mersman and our staff to draft an Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for the City. This procedural document and continued training will important tool that will keep Garnett residents and City Employees safe while quickly restoring city services. I have also participated in interviews for our opening in the Public Works and Electric Distribution departments. We had several quality candidates apply and after consideration, we have hired Bryan Grissell and John Rogers to join our Public Works Crew. I attended this month's meetings of the Anderson County Development Agency and Housing Authority and discussed among other topics potential budgets for next year. We also held an employee appreciation luncheon on Wednesday and participated in the Ribbon Cutting ceremony for AirMedCare Network at the Anderson County Hospital. We have also obviously been dealing with impacts from this large amount of rain we have received over the past week. We have had multiple leaks appear in City facilities, a bridge wash out on the north lake road, and more damage at Cedar Valley Reservoir where the head cut developed last year. As was discussed previously, we had hoped to get the head cut repaired prior to an event like this, although it unfortunately never dried out enough to get equipment in to the area to repair the

damage. We also worked with area contractors to obtain estimates on repairing this damage, but their response was the same, that it would need to dry out significantly to avoid getting their equipment stuck. Like the storm system from last year which caused the original damage, this has been declared a State Disaster. Hopefully, President Trump will declare a National Disaster for this storm system, thereby opening up federal resources to help with recovery through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). I have communicated with the Kansas Department of Commerce regarding our damage and we are tracking our damages in the event FEMA funding becomes available.

I would like to congratulate a few City staff members on some recent notable achievements. Our Director of Wastewater Treatment, Eric Trammel, has obtained his Class II Wastewater Operator Certification from the Kansas Department of Environment (KDHE). This is a very valuable certification for Eric to have achieved as the State requires us to have at least a Class II certified operator in charge of our system. Foreman of Gas and Water Distribution, Raymond Arnett, has successfully passed his examination in cathodic protection testing. Water Plant Operator Matthew Jones has passed his second course in water treatment plant operations from California State University.

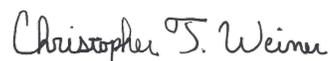
As our budget workshops approach, as I mentioned, I have been meeting individually with department heads to discuss their departmental budgets and needs for 2020. I am still in the process of meeting with everyone but I hope to conclude this next week so we can schedule our workshops. Please let me know a list of dates and times that work best for your schedules. I have sent out a Doodle poll to all of you and the County Commissioners so that we can select a date for the next joint City/County meeting in June. Please respond as soon as possible if you haven't yet so that we can get this scheduled.

This agenda is again fairly short with the first item being the presentation of the official City flag and recognition of the flag designer, Emma Self, and champion of the quest to develop a City flag, Eddie Gruver. My term has expired as our Director for the Kansas Municipal Gas Agency (KMGA) and as such we need to appoint our Director for the next two-year term. Following that is discussion of the transportation projects plan for 2019. As you will see attached, City staff has prepared a recommend list of projects to mainly repair the worst intersections in town, as well as

to seal, and thereby extend the life of some of the more recently paved roads. I believe this plan as presented will be the better part of \$100,000 for the projects and \$50,000 for the sealing. This is all of the resources we have budgeted for 2019 street projects. We do have some resources budgeted for sidewalks and alleys that we could utilize for streets, although we have already spent some of those dollars and do have some planned work in both categories. The biggest challenge we are running into is finding contractors for the concrete work. We do not have the manpower to do much of this work in house unfortunately. We hope to get quite a few ADA sidewalk ramps installed this year if we can find the contractors to do the work. I would also like to use whatever resources we can to put toward the potential City Connecting Link Improvement Program (CCLIP) Grant we hope to receive for the Maple Street project from the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). I know multiple projects have been suggested by different Commissioners, all being worthy projects. This staff proposal is based upon an effort to maintain what is currently in decent to fair condition – thereby saving the road and us significantly more resources in a few years – as well as addressing the worst intersections in town. As requested, I have placed the five-member commission discussion back on the agenda and the bills and payroll this time total \$143,428.02.

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,

Handwritten signature of Christopher T. Weiner in cursive script.

Christopher T. Weiner, City Manager