



July 2020

- Kansas Works Mobile Unit is suspended from travel until further notice
- Destination Creation Class #2 concluded on July 10.
- Continue working with potential new businesses
- Continue to answer RFI from Kansas Department of Commerce
- Working with 9 CDBG-CV applicants to receive funding
- Documenting, mapping, and photographing abandoned and dilapidated properties.
- 140 East 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Denise Law building. Sold to and investor on July 23.
- Continue meeting with Morning Mingle and Love What’s Local Committees
- Meeting with Secretary Toland’s Task Force on ROZ.



## Building Official Zoning Administrator

Monthly Report July 5, 2020

For the month of July, we had 16 Permit applications. On the 27<sup>th</sup> of July I started as the new Building Official and Zoning Administrator. Prior to my start date, the previous building inspector completed 9 inspection reports. Since my start date, the previous inspector and myself have completed an additional 3 inspections totaling to 12 inspection reports. During this month, following the inspection of a property the previous inspector verified that all the requirements for a special use permit had been fulfilled.

The Previous Building Official has been assisting with my training as I begin to transition into this position. I have spent a majority of my time acclimating myself to the Garnett zoning and subdivision regulations and the 2018 Building Codes so that I am better able to understand and implement them.

I hope to become a knowledgeable asset to both the City and community as I continue my time as the Building Official and Zoning Administrator.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Garrett Gross  
Building Official  
Zoning Administrator

## GARNETT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Current Member count is 99. I have received inquiries about membership and our Chamber Bucks Program. I am also connecting with other Chamber Directors to learn about their membership programs, benefits, education, training, and other ideas to create more value for our businesses as members. I encourage all our members to contact the Chamber office if they have specific requests for their business.

The Community Give Back Program the program will continue until funds are depleted. I would like to thank everyone within the community for their continued participation and support of this program. Your support of the local business community is greatly appreciated.

Weekly eblasts and monthly duties continue, including keeping bank accounts current, social media active, and keeping in contact with businesses to meet their needs. We will continue to reach out to members, assist with training, websites, and finding the right resources. The Chamber has been working hard to provide information to our businesses, keeping our website updated, and assisting business owners as the opportunity arises. We will begin planning the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Parade.

There will be some special activities next week for Garnett Farmer's Market Week, and we invite the community to join us Thursday, August 6 from 4:30-7 p.m. and celebrate! And thank you to the City Commissioners, for your support.

Chamber Board and Tourism Meetings are continuing, as well as Anderson County Covid-19 Task Force, LWL, and Morning Mingle and ACT Work Ready Community Committee.

Currently assisting Susan with welcome bags, printing/distributing of brochures, and social media, and updating kiosks and depot with current flyers and brochures. We are working to update the website and calendar with event changes and cancellations. This month Susan has taught me more in depth on the website, uploading audio and video. We have worked on the weekly work schedule, prioritizing tasks, and completing things in a timely manner.

Welcome bags with Garnett information are being distributed for new residents, events, and the campgrounds. If you have information(businesses) that you would like distributed in these bags, please contact the Chamber office. I encourage you to participate, whether it is a gift card, brochure, coupon, etc. This is an easy way to market your business. Also, these items are provided upon request when there is an enquiry about your business.

I would like to thank City Staff, and the Chamber Board of Directors for two years of education, mentorship, and growth. I have learned a great deal from you all, and we are seeing progress. I would not have been able to accomplish what I have without you, and I look forward to more learning, more growth, and a bright future for the Chamber of Commerce, and our city.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kris Hix, Executive Director



*Small, Serene, Simply Garnett.*

## CLERK'S CORNER

### July Monthly Report

For the month of July, we had 16 new Utility Customers in Garnett. We had 283 Delinquent Notices mailed out for not paying by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Out of 283 delinquent notices, we had 19 utility customers who did not pay by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. Out of those 19, 4 have yet to pay and are still disconnected.

I am still working through getting the last flooding disaster closed out. So far, we have signed off on four (4) categories; Category B (Emergency Protective Measures), Category G (Permanent Work for our Lakes and Reservoir), Category C (North Lake Culvert Damages), and Category C (Permanent Work for our gravel roads and alleys). Category G damages claimed totaled \$23,441.92, Category G damages claimed totaled \$19,323.81, Category C (North Lake Culvert) damages claimed totaled \$62,958.73, and Category C (gravel roads and alleys) damages claimed totaled \$6,557.59. Total claimed for all four (4) categories is \$112,282.05. As I have worked through this flood and the prior flood, the process is a long, strenuous one that never seems to end with constant follow up questions to questions already answered. We still have some things to complete for this disaster with mitigation and permanent fixes to our North Lake Spillway and Cedar Valley Reservoir, however by getting these signed off on, we are one step closer to getting reimbursed from FEMA for the repairs we have already made.

As was mentioned at the last City Commission meeting, I have submitted the COVID-19 SPARK spreadsheet to JD Mersman for expenses we have already incurred. Total expenses I have collected and been given receipts for including labor is \$23,812.34. I am also working on a direct aid funding spreadsheet that we received from Anderson County Clerk Julie Wettstein that is for

COVID related items we are looking to purchasing in the event the virus comes back around this fall. From my understanding, we would create a list of itemized expenses and if approved, we would receive funding to purchase those items on that list. Those items include laptops for remote working, portable temperature scanners, automatic hand sanitizer dispensers, permanent glass barriers for the counters, spray bottles, masks, cleaners, disinfectants, sanitizing fogger systems, backpack/portable sanitizer sprayer, air scrubber/air purifiers, and other mechanisms to prevent and or kill the virus. More to come on that project as more information comes available from the state and county.

Thanks  
Travis Wilson  
City Clerk/Municipal Court Clerk/HR Director in Training



## **Garnett Police Department**

*131 West 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue*

*Garnett, Kansas 66032-0230*

*Telephone*  
*(785) 448-6823*

*Fax*  
*(785) 448-0088*

### **GPD Monthly Report for July 2020**

July 03, Officers were called to a residence in Garnett for a physical fight. A 20-year-old male was arrested for Disorderly Conduct. This was forwarded to the City Atty.

July 05, Officers were called to a residence in Garnet for a Criminal Damage to Property. A 21-year-old male was arrested for CDP. This case was forwarded to the City Atty.

July 05, Officers were dispatched to a residence for a family fight. A 35-year-old female was arrested for Disorderly Conduct.

July 10, Officers were called to assist the ANSO for an armed domestic. The suspect was taken into custody for numerous charges.

July 16, Officers observed an intoxicated person walking in the middle of the roadway. An 18-year-old resident of Garnett was arrested for Pedestrian Under the Influence and Minor in Possession of Alcohol. This case was turned over to the City Atty.

July 19, Officers made a warrant arrest on a person and found him to be in possession of Marijuana. Charges are pending with the County Atty for Possession of Marijuana, 3<sup>rd</sup> or subsequent.

July 22, Officers were called to Short Stop for an intoxicated driver. After observing traffic violations, the vehicle was stopped. The 21-year-old driver was arrested for DUI. Both the driver and passenger were cited for Open Container. This case was forwarded onto the City Atty.

July 24, Officers were called to ACH for a stabbing. Through the investigation, it was learned this happened at a residence in Garnett. A 28-year-old female and 31-year-old male have been charged with Attempted 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Murder, Felony Interference with Officers, and Violation of Protection Order. They are currently in custody at the Anderson County Jail on \$500,000 c/s bond. The investigation into this case is still ongoing.

July 28, a 35-year-old female was arrested for violation of a no contact order. This case was forwarded to the County Atty.

For the month of July, GPD took a total of 203 calls for service, conducted 46 traffic stops, and had 13 calls of service for animal control.

## **Code Enforcement**

Officer Donovan sent 21 letters addressing the weed ordinance for 22 properties. Of those, 9 are in compliance, 8 properties are still within the 10-day window. 4 of the properties are awaiting certified returns from the USPS.

10 work orders in the month of July have been requested. 7 work orders have been completed, 1 remain outstanding and 1 is waiting to be invoiced.

Kurt King

Chief of Police

# Garnett Police Department

131 W 5th, Garnett, KS 66032

## Activity Totals

07/01/2020 - 07/31/2020

	All Arrests	Felony Arrests	Misd Arrests	Other Arrests	Summons	Traffic	Criminal	Supplement Report	Field Interview	Reports	Total Activity
Totals	23	2	15	6	51	27	8	75	38	36	281

# Garnett Police Department

131 W 5th, Garnett, KS 66032

## Agency Statistics

July 2020

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<b>Reports Today:</b> 1	<b>MTD Reports This Year:</b> 36
<b>YTD Reports This Year:</b> 223	<b>YTD Reports Unapproved This Year:</b> 5
<b>MTD Reports Last Year:</b> 49	<b>YTD Reports Last Year:</b> 264
<b>MTD Arrests This Year:</b> 23	<b>YTD Arrests This Year:</b> 117
<b>MTD Arrests Last Year:</b> 23	<b>YTD Arrests Last Year:</b> 142
<b>MTD Citations This Year:</b> 51	<b>YTD Citations This Year:</b> 327
<b>MTD Citations Last Year:</b> 52	<b>YTD Citations Last Year:</b> 397

Community Development and Tourism Report for the City Commission  
For August 11, 2020  
By Susan Wettstein

Special Events Calendar – In progress. Quite a few events are cancelling due to Covid-19. Newest cancellations are:

- Anderson County Fair – Carnival, parade and other public events.
- Rhythm and Ride on the Prairie Spirit Trail
- Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail Haunted House at Santa Fe Depot
- Friends of the Library Holiday Homes Tour
- Greeley Smokeoff

Bingo and the monthly breakfast fundraisers at the VFW Post Home have started again. The Colony Day Car Show and Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival are still a “Go” at this time.

Due to the cancelling of the public activities for the Anderson County Fair, we did not have a booth at the fair tent as discussed at our last meeting.

We have reached out to the entities that have Halloween events to see if they are working alternative activities or cancelling. We have only received a response from the Friends of the Prairie Spirit Trail at this time.

SEKTR – Garnett Tourism was the host of a Zoom meeting for the Southeast Kansas Tourism Region Marketing Committee on July 13<sup>th</sup>. Marketing discussion was held on the rack card revisions and Kansas Travel Guide advertising that SEKTR does as an organization. The SEKTR member meeting was held on July 16<sup>th</sup> at Baxter Springs. Kris and I were present by video conferencing. Bridgette Jobe, Kansas Tourism Director, was also present by video and shared information and the new “Kansas to the Stars” marketing campaign.

Covid-19 – SPARK Funding – I have sent out information to 36 organization representatives to encourage anyone who may have losses/expenses due to Covid-19 to please provide a spreadsheet and documentation to JD Mersman by August 5<sup>th</sup>. Anderson County will be awarded a total of \$1.5 million towards allowable expenses in one phase only and information including documentation or receipts is due from Anderson County to the State on August 7, 2020. Unused money will be returned to the state or federal government. There is no guarantee that these expenses will be approved by state and federal officials, but I feel it is worth the try.

Kris and I have logged our time and expenses related to Covid-19 and have turned them in to Travis Wilson, City Clerk, for the City to seek reimbursement. I alone have logged 66.5 manhours and \$3,619.45 in paper, copies and other expenses related to Covid-19, and that doesn’t count all other afterhours work on social media, etc., that just happens as needed.

National Farmers Market Week is August 2-8. PLEASE vote for the Garnett Farmers Market (66032) so that we might win \$1,000 for the market! <https://markets.farmland.org/> I am helping Kris (Market Manager) to promote National Farmers Market Week. A few years ago, I applied for a grant for the farmers market and received all kinds of promotional items that the farmers market was given. Kris has been digging

through the farmers market trailer and plans to give away bags with recipes and local information, giveaways and random prizes in the bags. She is working with the extension office to have a presentation/demonstration. We are still working to get some food trucks and other activities at the market. Kris has done a superb job. Last week's market had 10 vendors!

We are gearing up to help promote Garnett City Wide Garage Sale Day. We are putting an event on the City's Facebook page and are going to offer people the opportunity to post their garage sale information (Garnett/Anderson County only) on that page.

Rural Prosperity Virtual Meeting – September 9<sup>th</sup>. If you remember, the Lieutenant Governor, Lynn Rogers was here about a year ago to see for himself the issues our area faces. Due to Covid-19, the idea of having several events around the state to continue those conversation has changed to virtual meetings. Our region's meeting is September 9<sup>th</sup>. However, there is a statewide meeting in August that you can attend as well. I encourage City Commission and Staff, and Garnett area residents to register and participate: <https://www.ruralkanprosper.ks.gov/2020-tour/>

Tourism Conference – The annual Kansas Tourism Conference is still on the books as an attending event, but if necessary, it will be virtual. Kris and I have registered for the conference and they have waiving the fees (Scholarships). The only expense we will have if we do attend in person is our hotel and possibly a meal or two. The Conference is slated October 19-21 in Liberal.

Libertyfest – We had to postpone Libertyfest to Labor Day Weekend, Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, due to a severe weather threat. At this time, we have collected \$1,755 in donations. We have \$5,000 of fireworks contracted. If we were to cancel all together, we would still have to pay \$2,500 even if we didn't use the fireworks. So, we are going to be working from now through Labor Day to encourage donations. The Celebration of Service is up in the air due to Covid-19.

North Lake Road improvements – I have asked for administrative help in getting quotes for North Lake Road improvements. A company is coming out to the airport soon and is to help with giving us information. In order for the events, such as the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival and the Lake Garnett Enduro Races to happen on this historic road course there are issues that plague the road surface that if not remediated this events will not be able to continue into the for safety reasons. As we had discussed in the Tourism Advisory Board meetings, if we can get an idea of the costs then perhaps, we can find a grant or matching grant and then see if the Commission would allow us to use TGT funds towards this. Typically, this would not be a use of Transient Guest Tax funds, but these events bring in transient guests to the community and without such improvements these events will cease.

I am also looking for ways to increase electricity at the North Lake Park. There is a real desire for campsites by the lake and the area southwest of the sprint track would be a good place geographically, but I am not certain if the challenges would prohibit such improvement. The organization hosting the sprint track races would like LED lighting to have night racing, as well as more electricity for food vendors, etc. So, I am trying to get information from the electric department on these projects.

New Banners – Garnett has had banners since 2005. Delton and Janice Hodgson started this project by collecting donations from several businesses and individuals. It was a two-phase project of Phase I with 40 banners and Phase II with 50 banners. The First phase was replaced by the second phase. The Phase I original banners are put up after Christmas every year and are very worn. On average, \$200 is spent

annually to have repairs done to them. I am researching and in the planning process to design approximately 40 news banners to replace the oldest banners.

We still have a vacancy on the Garnett Tourism Advisory Committee. We have one person who is to turn in Statement of Interest, but we have not received it yet. There are vacancies on the Steering Committee if anyone is interested.

Since changing the meeting date from the first Wednesday to the first Tuesday of the month, I have not received an email from any board member yet saying this Tuesday is a workable date for the meeting. Therefore, we might want to revisit this during a meeting. I know that with the opening of school approaching this is a busy time.

Kudos to the Garnett Country Club. They have launched a new website, [www.golfgarnett.com](http://www.golfgarnett.com). You can pay green fees, cart rental and membership online.

I took time out on Saturday to take some pictures of the KCKA sprint track races and uploaded some of it to social media. During this Covid-19 time I know it seems now more than ever for some people to feel that there is nothing to do around here. I believe Garnett, despite the pandemic, has a variety of opportunity but we must simply remind ourselves of how lucky we are to have 3 lakes and over 1,000 acres of parks, just for starters Most of these amenities and activities within our parks can be enjoyed in a Covid-19 safe way with plenty of social distancing room.

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# July Wastewater Report

We hauled 34.5 tons of sludge to the Anderson County Transfer Station. We've been running the belt press almost every day. We rodded a sewer at Monroe and Cedar St. Rusty went to a Wastewater Class in Chanute.

Our last power outage we had one of our lab furnaces go out, we got a new one and can get our tests done in a timely manner. We also had a comlink controller go out on our UV system, it has been sent in for repair.

Eric Trammell

Wastewater Supervisor