



City Manager's Report

November 26, 2019

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

Over the past few weeks we've had multiple meetings regarding our health insurance renewal proposals for next year. We had two competitive proposals one from our current insurance provider, Aetna, as well as one from Blue-Cross Blue Shield of Kansas. Due to the changes we made in our plan designs for this current year, we have seen significant reductions in the cost of providing medical insurance to our staff, while being able to maintain quality healthcare coverage. As you know, based on the projected year-end figures, we lowered 2020's budget for health insurance expenses. Unfortunately, our renewal proposals came in higher than I was hoping for at approximately a 10% increase from Aetna or a 17% increase from Blue Cross Blue Shield. Fortunately, due to the success of the plan designs, we will be able to avoid an increase in employee premiums for 2020 if we stick with Aetna. In the event we transition to Blue Cross Blue Shield, the employees' premiums will increase by \$50 per month. The employee health insurance committee has reviewed the options and is currently deliberating with their various departments regarding the options prior to us making a decision on carrier next week.


I attended our monthly Work Keys meeting where Director Turnipseed hosted Pottawatomie County Economic Development Director Jack Allston to speak about the success of the program in Pottawatomie County. As I've mentioned before, I think this program will be tremendously successful for our long-term economic growth. I also attended our regional League of Municipalities Supper in Burlington last week and received an update on the League's expected legislative efforts this coming year. City Attorney Solander, Fire Chief Tate, and I met with the County Commissioners, County Fire Coordinator Mick Brinkmeyer, and Emergency Management Director J.D. Mersman and worked out an update to our City/County Fire Agreement. I also had

multiple conversations with concerned residents regarding code enforcement violations, business concerns, and other issues.

As for the agenda, the first item is the consideration of Mr. Tarry Miller to join the Airport Advisory Board. As you know, the Airport Board has had a vacancy for quite a while and Mr. Miller attended the last meeting and indicated an interest in joining the board. The second item for your consideration is the annual renewal of Cereal Malt Beverage (CMB) Licenses for our local restaurants and convenience stores. The last item is the consideration of the bills and payroll in the amount of \$185,164.38.

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,


Christopher T. Weiner, City Manager