

Community Development Department Reports for January 2017:

Airport:

Airport Report
Garnett Industrial Airport
December – 2017
Gary Ecclefield – Manager

1. Completed report for December.
2. Fuel Transactions and Invoices.
3. Sent Weather Data to the National Weather Service.
4. Completed Inventory of Airport assets.
5. Courtesy car returned to service with turn signals working.
6. Checked and replaced runway lights as needed. Ordered bulbs.
7. House fire on property adjacent to Airport.
8. Bid received for restroom flooring.
9. Renewed NOTAM (notices to airmen) authorization form for 2018.
10. Met with Susan Wettstein concerning Airport land use. (farming agreement)
11. Dudley Feuerborn harvested beans, cut and baled hay. Also did extra mowing.
12. Labeled Pence Aerial Services Jet-A fuel tank.
13. Put street numbers on new mail box.
14. City crews checked West property line, pulled fence up and posted signs.
15. First snow of the season measured 0.6 inches at 8 A.M. on the 24th. Moisture content =0.03 inches.

Flight Activity

1. Flight training flights for two students.
2. Aerial seeding and spraying has ended.
3. Student pilot, Jake Skedel, close to soloing.

Projects

1. Restroom flooring
2. City Hangar and Airport Shop roofs.
3. Pave fueling ramp.
4. Heights and Hazards regulations. (trees in the approach to runway 19)

Code Enforcement:

Code Enforcement Officer Pat Tate reports the following year-end report showing the number of code enforcement issues dealt with in 2017:

Nuisance Violations: 114

Inoperable Cars/Trucks: 88

Junk: 33

Dangerous Structure Inspections (assisted Zoning Administrator): 17

Weed Notices: 87
Code Enforcement Violation Letters Sent: 96
Citations: 12

Planning and Zoning:

Later December and the start of January 2018 is rather slow for the inspection department, but here's what's in the works:

1. Genco project is still in the development stage.
2. Jim Todd's 5th Avenue building project has started with some site demolition, but on hold due to weather for now.
3. Willow Street Apartments rehab is continuing, and inspections performed as phases are being completed.
4. Floodplain mapping will be presented to the Planning Commissioners this month.
5. Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule questionnaire is being completed to follow with an end of month meeting with a field rep.
6. Two Zoning Code violations were written 1.) Mark Wade on US-59 across from the GES, regarding his construction equipment in a residential zone. He has requested a little more time for compliance which I granted and I will continue to check on his progress which he is working on; 2.) Robert Calver on E. 6th Avenue, for improperly installing a wood burning stove without permit or inspection. It will be inspected for compliance after the proper chimney piping is installed and interior items are addressed.
7. 2018 Ag Use Permits have been mailed out to applicable residents.

Thank you,

Gary Giczewski
Building/Zoning/ADA Administrator

Economic Development:

Dennis Arnold, Economic Development Director, has submitted a report providing approximately five years of accomplishments by Garnett/Anderson County Economic Development. City Manager Chris Weiner will be sharing that report with the Commission separately for the January 8th joint City/County meeting.

Parks and Recreation:

Parks/Recreation/Cemetery
Monthly Report
January 3, 2018

Even when it is cold outside there is still work to be done at the pool. The parks crew went out and removed the benches at the pool and are in the process of rebuilding them. They are replacing the warped boards and replace the metal where it has rusted through. They are also weather treating them so they should be hold up to all the water that they endure during the summer.

Like last month, dirt work continues at the cemetery leveling up graves and putting down some extra grass seed on the fresh graves. The guys have also done some work on a few stones to level them up to keep them from falling over. As with many projects we do this is a never-ending process. We also have had numerous graves to dig over the past month.

Along with work at the cemetery the crew has been out working in the parks. They have been doing some grounds work filling in holes and removing stumps in the parks. They have also started the yearly trimming of the brush in the spillway and along the dams of the lakes. This is something we do every year and will continue to keep up with as years go by. We are going to focus on the slope by the highway at the South Lake to clear it up to make the "Welcome to Garnett" sign a little more visible as people make their way into town.

Basketball will be in full swing starting January 6th, with all the teams in the 3rd/4th and 5th/6th grade having games. The season will run from the beginning of January until the first of March. We will be utilizing both the Recreation Center and Ray Meyer gym for our games. Also this month we will begin the little dribblers program for the preschool and Kindergarteners. It will be a busy time on the court.

This is a very busy time for the Recreation Center. All the people with the resolution to drop a few pounds or just get into a little better shape will be coming to visit. In addition to all the visitors we still have many classes to offer. We currently offer yoga, spin, and will be introducing a low impact aerobics class this winter as well. We try to offer a little bit for everyone and I think we have done well achieving that goal. For those who like to go about things on their own we have the equipment for that as well. We are glad to announce that we will be adding a new piece of equipment to our cardio room as well. It is a recumbent elliptical. This piece of equipment will allow those people to sit and use the elliptical. It makes it so there is less stress on the knees and allows those with certain physical restrictions to work out.

We are in the process to make the Recreation Center a 24-hour facility and to do that we are going to need to upgrade some software and also add some additional security and safety measures to the building. I am speaking to a few companies and trying to decide what will work the best for us and how much it is going to cost to retro fit our facility with this new technology. With that I hope to write a grant that will help offset these costs making it much more affordable for us to do.

We are still expecting one more delivery of fish and this usually comes the first part of January. So right now the fishing should be good. I have had a few reports of people catching some, so that is good. The Rainbow Trout season runs from November 1st until April 15th so there is still plenty of time to catch some trout.

If you have any questions about the parks or the things that we are doing do not hesitate to ask.

Thanks,
Phil Bures - Director of Parks and Recreation

Tourism:

For the year ending 2017, \$23,072.00 were granted to promote 17 special events. Of those dollars granted, \$20,132.95 was reimbursed through the Garnett Tourism Transient Guest Tax Grant Program. An estimated 19,876 people attended these events.

The total amount budgeted for the Transient Guest Tax Grant Program for 2017 was \$26,000. The total receipts received through Transient Guest Tax in 2017 was \$25,788.25 with \$21,563.30 available for this grant program. The amount budgeted in 2018 for the Transient Guest Tax Grant Program for 2018 is \$20,000.

Three goals Susan Wettstein and Desiree Donovan will be working on specifically in 2018 are:

1. To establish at least one (1) new or additional special event to our events calendar in 2018 that will put "heads on beds" (increase overnight stays in motels) and increase sales at restaurants and businesses;
2. Work with local motels.
 - a.) Meet with motel owners/managers to find out how we can encourage a positive experience for their customers (and positive online reviews);
 - b.) Once (a.) is achieved, work on encouraging positive talk in the community about our motels, knowing that sometimes word of mouth can be the best form of advertising;
 - c.) Work together with local lodging establishments to effectively promote their existence and increase overnight stays of visitor types (business, travel, leisure, other).
3. Collaborate quarterly and/or seasonal promotions with special event organizers and community stakeholders (attractions and businesses), utilizing this effort to develop a state marketing grant application.

Garnett will be the host for the Southeast Kansas Tourism Region's January meeting on Thursday, January 18th, at 8:00 a.m. SEKTR is having an informational booth at the KC Boat Show that weekend, January 19-21, and this meeting will be on the way for so members to set up the booth. The Kirk House is graciously providing the meeting location. We will be providing donuts and beverages.

The first of a new year is busy with giving our brochures and online content a fresh makeover and adding new areas for web development to include 2018 information and keep existing content. Social media is a non-stop work in progress.

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Community Development Additions:

With the distribution of the Winter 2018 issue of *Town Talk* to 2,220 households and businesses within our zip code area, we are now announcing that the application process to sponsor patriotic banners has started. There was a waiting list of approximately 10 banner sponsors prior to the start of this project on January 2nd. The deadline for applications is March 30th. Please mark your calendars for this year's "Celebration of Service" to be held on Thursday, May 24th at 7:00 p.m. We hope the City Commission will participate in this service once again.

The deadline for the airport consultant proposals is Friday, January 5th. City Manager Chris Weiner and I will be going over these proposals with further discussion at the upcoming Airport Advisory Board meeting. We have to select a consultant and notify the FAA by January 22, 2018.

Also, I wanted to share with the City Commission that Airport Manager Gary Ecclefield shared the recently updated inventory of fixed based aircraft for the Garnett Industrial Airport during the December airport board meeting. The inventory shows there are 19 airplanes that are based out of our airport. Gary reported there could be a couple more added, while another airplane may be sold. There are 14 hangars at the Garnett airport and all of them are fully occupied.

I hope to meet with the Parks Department and Chris next week to go over the park assessment.

Parks and Recreation Director Phil Bures would like the City to consider doing away with a different rate structure regarding resident and non-resident fees for grave openings and go to a simplified one fee structure regardless of residency. Currently Garnett residents are charged anywhere from \$10 to \$25 less than a non-resident for a grave opening. The ordinance is unclear as to the definition of what constitutes a non-resident. I have discussed this issue with City Manager Chris Weiner to see if this can be remedied with consideration by the Governing Body when other rate fees are discussed.

As I work in the realm of Community Development, I am still taking care of utility reports, Vested Water Rights reporting, and other non-community development tasks including helping with the drive-up window due to staff shortage in the Utility Billing Department.

My assistant (deputy) and Chamber Director, Desiree Donovan, is spreading her time in helping with surveying communities for utility rates, fuel adjustment and other rate fee comparisons, tourism and community development duties, and preparation of the

Chamber's annual banquet to be held January 25th featuring former NFL football player/sportscaster, Kendall Gammon. I invite the City Commission to consider attending this event to join in support of our local businesses. Chamber memberships continue to flow in to the Chamber Office for 2018, per Desiree.

We continue to make improvements with Facebook Live streaming of City Commission meetings. Viewers are having audio issues in which we feel the Commission is making great effort on their part to address by talking clearly and toward the microphones and not shuffling papers directly in front of the mics. Thank you for your help! Facebook Live videos have been viewed hundreds of times (one video-over 1,300 times). The videos are available on the City's website following each meeting.

Desiree and I continue to update the LOIS (Location One) website and assist in Economic Development efforts at the request of either City Manager Chris Weiner or Economic Development Director Dennis Arnold. I recently added labor and workforce data to our website as provided by the Kansas Department of Labor. We continue to play the role of support staff until we receive further direction as the City and County make plans for our economic future. In the meantime, the City of Garnett invites the public to attend a reception to honor Dennis Arnold for his service to the community, to be held Tuesday, January 30th at 1:00 p.m. at Garnett City Hall in the Commission Room. We will have light refreshments. Mr. Arnold has announced his retirement for both his part-time position in Anderson County and full-time position in Linn County is effective January 31, 2018.

Lastly, Garnett Community Development has become a part of the Destination Development Association. It is a web-based development strategy that offers help in developing our own Action Plan, case studies, sample ordinances, branding, downtown revitalization, community development, tourism and marketing tools and best practices. We plan to share the user access with anyone that would like access that represents Garnett Tourism, Economic Development, Planning Commission, Chamber Board, Commissioners and other deemed "community champions".

As always, we welcome your constructive criticism, your ideas, suggestions and questions as we work toward #MakingGarnettGreat.

Respectfully,

Susan Wettstein
Director of Community Development