

GENERAL REPORT
February 14, 2017

1. I am enclosing the engineer's estimate to repair the spillway outlet area. I'm not sure what the commission wants to do at this point; perhaps wait for the new manager to guide you through this. Right now we are saving money for extensive sewer repairs. Added to that is the possible construction of a new water plant so you might want to wrap this expense into a combined bond issue.

2. The Tourism Advisory Board met in special session on February 9th to consider five (5) transient guest tax applications. They are listed on your agenda. Each application is self-explanatory and has been very well prepared; therefore, I will not go into a great deal of detail other than to say all of them were unanimously approved by the board. They reviewed last year's summation reports. Here is that information:

Chamber Players – approved for \$2,600.28 in 2016; received \$1,649.82 because one (1) newspaper failed to run some of their ads and they chose to pull some of their ads from another paper. Their attendance stays around 2,800 each year and brings many people to Garnett. This year's request: \$3,144. Tom Emerson stated that advertising costs have raised in one of their venues because three (3) papers merged.

BPW Women's Fair – application was denied last year because of poor attendance in 2015. However, the Tourism Board believes this organization is trying several new venues which should entice more people to attend. This year's request: \$646.35.

BPW Square Fair – approved for \$1,322.70 in 2016; received \$1,315.20. This event has been a staple in our community for many years and needs no explanation. This year's request: \$1,447.75.

BPW Holiday Boutique – approved for \$309.50 in 2016; received \$264.50. This event coincides with the Library's Christmas Home Tour. This year's request: \$500.50.

Walker Art Juried Art Exhibition – While this is the third juried art show, this is the first year they have applied for funds. Their main expense is the preparation of flyers (sample included) that will be circulated in four (4) different papers. Lawrence is a great art venue and the committee hopes to attract a large group of attendees from this area. Their request: \$1,666.

A copy of the Tourism Advisory Board minutes is enclosed.

3. The agreement for the go-kart races has been prepared in the standard format. There are no changes from prior year agreements other than the dates.

4. City offices will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of President's Day.

PROJECT UPDATE REPORT

A. Electric line along Walnut Street – should have their schedule sometime the week of February 13th.

B. Water Plant – Jim James and I will meet with PEC engineering firm on February 14, 2017 to review plans and discuss applying for CDBG or USDA funding grants.

C. Outflow Meter – Butch Rocker, Ken Amaya and I met with Kansas Department of Water Resources officials on February 7th. As previously reported, they are in total agreement with the water outflow device that will be installed at Cedar Valley Reservoir.

At this meeting, we discussed our continuing disagreement with metering the water that is used to cool four (4) of the engines at the power plant. After going over maps, showing them the new water meter installation for the golf course and explaining the metering of the north lake water line that now only serves the ethanol plant, they began to see why we were so adamant about not spending any money on power plant meters.

Documentation concerning the four (4) engines has been prepared along with a chart showing the hours the engines were run over the last five (5) years. They have agreed to take this information to their department head with a recommendation from them that the City of Garnett has met all the requirements to protect our water rights. As I explained in the past, the water at the north and south lakes and Cedar Valley Reservoir belongs to the State of Kansas; we only impound it to be used by our residents and businesses. We have to account for all water received at the plant then disbursed out into the system. This is one of the most critical things we do each month.

D. Street repair – waiting for word from the County Commissioners.

E. Personnel policies – Terry and I continue to work on these as we have found several other things that need attention.

F. Computer – continue to work through problems

G. Skate park – drawing should be available prior to the meeting so it can be shared with skate boarders.

H. Sidewalks – beginning to receive application for 2017.

I. AWOS – Gordon discussed his concerns with this equipment at the airport. Pat Schettler, who is a member of the Airport Advisory Board, will provide a special report concerning this equipment at the board meeting that has been rescheduled for Wednesday, February 15th.

J. Advisory Boards – same openings as previously reported.

K. New playground – drawing is about done; will present to Community Foundation Board and Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Funds have been committed from the foundation board and private donors.

L. Jay Norco of North Hills Engineering met with me last week concerning the testing of nutrients in the wastewater from the sewer plant. We developed ideas for a draft report which he will refine and submit to the State.

Please let me know if any additional information is needed.

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