



*Small, Serene, Simply Garnett.*

## CLERK'S CORNER

### May Monthly Report

For the month of May, we had 13 new Utility Customers in Garnett. We had 204 Delinquent Notices mailed out for not paying by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month. Out of 204 delinquent notices, we had 26 utility customers who did not pay by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month however 0 were shut off due to COVID-19 and Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-05. Just as we did last month, I drafted a letter and printed it out on bright neon green card stock and I had our Meter Reader Shane Henkle go around to the 26 customers who hadn't paid and had him tape the letter to their doors.

We continue to work toward getting the online camping reservations up and running. There are a few things that need to be edited and corrected however it is coming together quite nicely and will be a great tool to have once implemented. Our goal right now is to do a soft roll out after Cornstock this year to catch some late campers as our test subjects and work out any bugs that may exist before the next camping season.

Recently JD Mersman reached out to me regarding expenses we have incurred due to COVID-19. I have been compiling invoices and receipts for all expenses and to date we have spent close to \$4,000. This figure does not include any labor hours for time spent in meetings and on conference calls related to the virus. Originally, JD was going to submit one project to FEMA that would include everyone within the county as there was concern about meeting the \$3,200 project mark however with us exceeding that number, he will be filing our project separately.

Also, this past month, several of us have been compiling data for our 2019 Audit. Jenny Schooler, Nancy Hermreck, and I have been working with the auditors to provide them with all they are

asking. We were able to knock out the list of items they requested before the audit began as well as several requests throughout the month. Due to COVID-19, all of these requests were done via email correspondence. A lot of scanning and emailing went on to get this accomplished which was not the easiest and most convenient on some things however we succeeded in getting them everything they requested. I want to thank both Jenny and Nancy for their hard work on getting it done quickly and efficiently.

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



## March 2020 Directors Report

- Worked with SEKRPC to apply for CDBG-CV funds for \$300,000 to help small and large businesses in Garnett negatively affected by COVID-19
- Kansas Works Mobile Career Center was canceled in May due to COVID-19
- Attended the Easter Region NetWork Kansas E-Community Retreat via Zoom.
- Destination Creation Class will resume training the end of June if possible.
- Working with potential new businesses for Garnett and Anderson County.
- Continue efforts to save the historic building at 140 East 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The tax sale date will be announced after it is again safe to meet in person.
- Continue to answer RFI's from Kansas Department of Commerce.
- Continue to promote the Love What's Local Garnett Campaign.
- Continue communications with representatives from NetWork Kansas & Department of Commerce.
- Attended webinars and conference calls on COVID-19 to help our businesses through the re-opening.
- Partnered with Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce to create and launch Community Give Back Program.
- Continued calling businesses to make them aware of available resources.

**Airport Report**  
**Garnett Industrial Airport**  
**May 2020**  
**Pat Schettler – Manager**

1. Completed May Commission Report
2. Did Fuel Transactions and Invoices. Still learning the FuelMaster system.
3. Sent May Weather Data to the National Weather Service.
4. Reviewed and updated Based Aircraft on FAA website.
5. The AWOS system failed again. Jerry Miller came and the two of us worked on it and found that it was full of ants and mice. They had chewed the wiring on the main system and the battery backup. We replaced the wiring, battery, controls and cleaned everything. It is working well now, but it is on its last legs.
6. Disconnected the old Windows 7 system that was in use at the airport from the internet. I still have to connect it to the internet once a month to access and report the Fuelmaster system. I also hooked up and switched everything over to the newer system.
7. Bill Dempsey's plane left for Rantoul and that eliminated our long term aircraft situation.
8. The Fairfields are actively moving the aviation related equipment into their new hangar #7.
9. Fuel sales have picked up fairly robustly. We are still behind from the last couple months.
10. We have had two aircraft spend about a week tied down during construction of the new taxiway at Miami County airport.
11. Continued work on the process with the FAA project under the CARES Airport Act. Chris, I and Caleb Coltraine are working to come up with the best design for the airport and the community at the smallest cost.
12. All mowing equipment is working well and mowing is pretty much continuous.
13. Starting the second round of spraying weeds.
14. Both Dale Pense and Lynn Davidson have started spraying for the year.
15. The FBO is fully open now.
16. Kept organizing the records. It is going to be an ongoing project.
17. Finished organizing the Airport Advisory Board meetings for the last 25 years into notebooks. Once this pandemic is over, the board needs to go over them. There is a lot of great information and history in them.
18. We are transitioning back to in person meetings for the June Advisory Board meeting. Zoom will still be available.
19. Working on the airport budget.
20. Debating adjusting the fuel price to be more competitive with local airports. Currently \$3.65.
21. I continued updating the Facebook airport page with daily Hi/Lo temps and rain totals.
22. Total moisture for May was 6.10 inches.
23. Average High temp/ Low temp = 71.2/ 51.5

**Flight Activity**

Several currency flights by local pilots.  
With the cheaper fuel, more flights by a local helicopter.  
Coffey County's rental plane has been at the airport several times.  
Transient flights are starting to pick up.

A new aircraft has located at the airport. A very nice Citabria has taken the last open hangar at the airport.

Spray planes have started for the season.

Several evenings powered paragliders flying. One student from Baldwin City has started lessons.

Several military helicopters doing auto rotation landings on runway.

### **Recommendations**

1. City Hangar and Airport Shop roofs. (pursuing grant from KDOT).
2. Fueling ramp and taxiway pavement. (Being finalized and readying for bidding).
3. Cracks in primary runway. (won a grant from KDOT ) Repairs pending.
4. Heights and Hazard documentation for the FAA.

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

June 3, 2020

## **GARNETT AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Current Member count is 98. Even through the current pandemic, we are receiving inquiries about membership and our Chamber Bucks Program.

The Community Give Back Program has passed the May 31 deadline with funding still available, so the program will continue until funds are depleted.

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 during this pandemic, keeping our website updated, and assisting business owners as the opportunity arises.

Chamber Board and Tourism Meetings are continuing, as well as Anderson County Covid-19 Task Force, LWL, and Morning Mingle. ACT Work Keys will meet June 18 via Zoom. I will be meeting with Southeast KANSASWORKS this week to see how we can further assist the community.

Currently assisting Susan with welcome bags, printing/distributing of brochures, and social media, as well as preparing to update kiosks, and depot with current flyers and brochures. We are in the process of finalizing the Travel KS listings for local businesses, organizations, and events for the 2021 magazine.

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.

I look forward to 2020 and the opportunity to serve my community through the City of Garnett and the Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce as we move through the Phases of recovery, look towards the future, and getting back to business.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kris Hix, Executive Director

Community Development & Tourism Report  
By Susan Wettstein  
June 3, 2020

As we “Open Garnett Again”, there are many tasks that keep us busy in relation to Community Development and Tourism. The computer keyboard has been “smokin’ hot” as we make change after change on our website and social media channels to keep up with the Governor’s order, then plan, then guidance. It’s a lot to keep citizens aware of. We have been working with Anderson County Emergency Management, the County Health Officer and the Anderson County Covid-19 Task Force, to post information they provide us through this process and share with the newspaper. You can follow some of the history of the last 3 months on our website by viewing three web pages ([Coronavirus](#), [Begin to Reopen](#), and [Open Garnett Again](#)) beginning on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Last weekend was a busy weekend for Garnett. The Garnett Enduro Club hosted the kart road races. Organizers reported 50 racers on Saturday and 45 on Sunday. This was a great turnout with some new races coming to Garnett for the first time. Some of the participants came for Arkansas, Iowa, Oklahoma and Texas.

As of this writing we head into yet another busy weekend with the Southland Cruisers 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Classic Auto Show on the town square, the Kansas City Karting Association sanctioned sprint track races at Lake Garnett Sprint Track, and the Kansas Dual Sport Safari hosted by the Garnett Lions Club. All the events have expressed their desire to promote social distancing and adhering to CDC guidelines with all participants and spectators. We expect all these events to be well attended.

I created a tribute video to the ACHS Class of 2020 that was shown on our Facebook page at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, the time and day graduation would have taken place. Not knowing at the time this the class would get a real graduation ceremony, tentatively scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m., we wanted to show those young men and women their city cares about them.

Memorial Day weekend was busy, thanks to Mr. Troy Hart, who organized an Honor Ride on Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> to show respect to the Garnett Remembers patriotic banner honorees. The motorcycle ride consisted of members and guests of the American Legion Riders Chapter 156 that rode the banner route and included riding through the parking lots of Guest Homes Estates, ACH Residential Living Center and Parkview Heights Living Center. Those facilities brought some of their residents out to wave at the riders as they passed by. Kris Hix, City Admin/Chamber Director, and I took photos and video of the experience for use on our social media channels and future uses.

While the public Memorial Day ceremony was cancelled, I met Clarence Hermann (VFW), Jonathan Hall (Pastor-Church of the Nazarene), and Sarah Mader, trumpet player, at the Garnett Municipal Cemetery at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> and livestreamed a simple ceremony with gun salute and Taps. Chelsey D’Albini provided a video of a story that tied an earlier pandemic to

soldiers buried in our cemetery. I created a video around that clip she provided me and shared it online, and also on our website. And, the three times I visited the cemetery it was buzzing with traffic. Kudos to the Parks Department. The cemetery looked beautiful.

Congratulations to Pat Tate on his retirement as Fire Chief and Code Enforcement Officer. We took pictures of the retirement party that was most creatively organized by Desiree Donovan, Administrative Assistant to the City Manager, with a nice slideshow and refreshments.

The Chamber Players Community Theatre has released information on rescheduling their March performance to June 18-21. Coming soon to the Commission will be a request from the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival for Transient Guest Tax Funds. Events are doing what they can to make great things happen for Garnett. We received another TGT disbursement in May. It was slightly higher than the amount received one year ago for the same time period.

The Government Access Channel, Channel 20, has been down for the last 3 weeks. Vyve reports that a part has been on backorder and is to be installed tomorrow, so hopefully it will be back online soon.

The speaker system on the square is still not usable for events to plug into as a P.A. system. The weather, then Covid-19 stay home order, and other issues have prevented Bo Harris from being able to come to Garnett. He hopes to come down soon. City Manager Weiner has another option if this cannot be completed soon. We do not have any organized events on the schedule for the town square, other than the Garnett Farmers' Market, until the Lake Garnett Grand Prix Revival in October. I strongly believe the speaker system will be up and running before then.

We are working with the Garnett Farmers' Market to try and grow the market with more vendors, concessionaires, food trucks and activities. We are inviting food trucks and entertainment, and we look to implement some games such as cornhole, giant checkers, chalk art, etc. I would like to see maybe in our future there be an outdoor movie occasionally, if we can find a sponsor or other funding. Kris Hix and I are working with the current vendors and the Land of Kansas on ways to promote the Garnett Farmers' Market as a destination. We understand some town square stores may stay open on Thursdays and offer "pop-up" shops to set up by their businesses to help give people more reasons to visit the market on Thursdays. Vendor fee to be a market vendor is only \$10 per week for a 10 x 15 space. Information is available on the [farmers' market link](#) on our website.

Libertyfest is slated for Saturday evening, July 11<sup>th</sup>. Due to Covid-19, we postponed the Celebration of Service recognizing the honorees of the Garnett Remembers Patriotic Banner Project to be held in conjunction with Libertyfest. We are waiting confirmation on the Community Band for this event, but the contract for the fireworks is in place. We invite the City Commissioners to once again name the names of honorees during the Celebration of Service, and if they wish, to help collect donations at the entrance to the park. We've enjoyed our time doing this and always appreciate the help. We anticipate the start of people arriving at 5 p.m., the Celebration of Service at 7 p.m., fireworks at sunset; approximately 9:15 p.m.

So far, since taking on Libertyfest, the fireworks display has solely been paid for by donations from organizations and individuals, collected through the Garnett Community Foundation. We hope we have the support of the community and those who attend, and that the generosity will continue. The date of July 11<sup>th</sup> was chosen for Libertyfest due to larger venues with larger budgets having first dibs on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Our budget for the fireworks is \$5,000.

*Town Talk*, the City's quarterly newsletter, will be mailed out by the end of June to everyone in our zip code and made available for viewing on our website.

The Southeast Kansas Tourism Region is planning a meeting in Independence on June 18<sup>th</sup>. We will be picking up the new Southeast Kansas Adventures & Day Trips Guides and catching up on regional tourism initiatives post Covid-19.

###

June 3 2020

Electric Distribution Dept.

The line crew has been busy trimming trees, removing trees in and around primary circuits. The past several weeks:

Cleaned out right-of-way north of the north substation.

Trees from Main between 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Pine between 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.

North Lake Pump House

Behind St. Rose School on East 4<sup>th</sup> Ave

5<sup>th</sup> Street Terrace & 5<sup>th</sup> Street & Cedar

Donnie Dille went to Mc Pherson, Kansas for Mobile Crain Certification training. He has also started his Lineman Apprenticeships with KMU.

We had to have an outrigger cylinder repaired on the 1989 Altec bucket truck.

Andy & I went to Ottawa late one afternoon and worked late into the night helping with storm damage.

What an amazing project the Garnett Heroes Banners have become. 255 banners were installed, throughout our town.

Helped the Parks Department with weeding the cemetery. Installed new aluminum flag pole at the cemetery in preparations for Memorial Day

We had a report of something making humming and rattling noise at the Garnett Municipal Airport & that the taxiway, runway and the rotating beacon were not working. A colony of ants had moved in to the lighting contactors and were not allowing the contactors to close completely. Removed both contactors disassembled and cleaned, removed all the ants we could from inside the contactor box.

We had a gentleman from United Power Services Incorporated and do an infrared survey of parts of our system in key locations. He found 2 spots that were showing heat on the distribution system.

- 1- Was on top of an electric distribution regulator inside the north substation. Repairs have been made. Using the Garnett Fire Departments Scott Micro IR thermal imaging camera rechecked connections. No hot spots were found.
- 2- Is on a non-fuseable cutout, on a riser pole just outside Garnett Power Plant. Repairs were made. . Using the Garnett Fire Departments Scott Micro IR thermal imaging camera rechecked connections. No hot spots were found.

## May Power Plant Monthly Report

Ran and tested all engines for SPP functionality test

Worked on Breaker for #5 engine

Mowed, weedeated and trimmed trees at South Lake

We took care of two nuisance properties

Built plexiglass shields for City hall



## 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 May 2019.

May 01, Officers located a stolen tag on a vehicle. The 32-year-old male was cited for Interference after lying about where the tag came from. This was referred to the City Atty.

May 02, Officers stopped a vehicle for speeding. After smelling Marijuana and finding the same, the driver was cited for Possession of Marijuana (2<sup>nd</sup>) and speeding. This was referred to the City Atty.

May 03, Officers located a 34-year-old male was reported to be laying in the roadway. Upon contact, the male was extremely intoxicated. The male was cited and given a ride home for his safety. This was referred to the City Atty.

May 06, Officers took a report of a theft. The 84-year-old victim claimed her grandson stole her vehicle. This was referred to the County Atty for warrants.

May 07, 10, and 11, Officers worked Domestic Fights within the City with arrests taking place on three occasions. These cases were turned over to the County Atty.

May 11, Officers worked a Hit and Run accident. The driver was found and contacted the next day where they admitted to striking the vehicle and leaving. The driver was cited and this was referred to the City Atty.

May 16, Officers had contact with numerous persons at CVR who were underage and intoxicated. A 19-year-old male and female were cited for Minor in Possession Alcohol. This case was referred to the City Atty.

May 25, a 34-year-old male was arrested for Driving while Suspended. This case was turned over to the City Atty.

May 29, a 54-year-old male was contacted at a residence. The male had Municipal Warrant and was found to be in possession of Methamphetamine. The warrants were served and the possession case was referred to the County Atty.

At the same call, a 50-year-old male was contacted and found to have active warrants for his arrest. He was arrested pending extradition to Missouri.

May 31, a 68-year-old female was stopped and cited for Driving while Suspended. This was referred to the City Atty.

May 31, a 40-year-old female was stopped and arrested for Driving while Suspended (3+) and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. This was referred to the City Atty.

May 31, a 22-year-old female was stopped and arrested for Driving while Suspended. This was referred to the City Atty.

May 31, a case was made for an Agency Assist for Franklin County as a 25-year-old male admitted to stealing from his grandmother in Franklin County. This case is still under investigation.

May 31, Officers responded to a fight. On scene, two persons were arrested for warrants, with one of them arrested for Domestic Criminal Damage to Property. This case was referred to the County Atty.

For the month of August, GPD took a total of 279 calls for service, conducted 88 traffic stops, and had 26 calls of service for animal control.

Kurt King

Chief of Police

# Garnett Police Department

131 W 5th, Garnett, KS 66032

## Agency Statistics

May 2020

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<b>Reports Today:</b> 6	<b>MTD Reports This Year:</b> 39
<b>YTD Reports This Year:</b> 159	<b>YTD Reports Unapproved This Year:</b> 11
<b>MTD Reports Last Year:</b> 41	<b>YTD Reports Last Year:</b> 174
<b>MTD Arrests This Year:</b> 29	<b>YTD Arrests This Year:</b> 80
<b>MTD Arrests Last Year:</b> 25	<b>YTD Arrests Last Year:</b> 101
<b>MTD Citations This Year:</b> 99	<b>YTD Citations This Year:</b> 245
<b>MTD Citations Last Year:</b> 77	<b>YTD Citations Last Year:</b> 282

# Garnett Police Department

131 W 5th, Garnett, KS 66032

## Activity Totals

05/01/2020 - 05/31/2020

	All Arrests	Felony Arrests	Misd Arrests	Other Arrests	Summons	Traffic	Criminal	Supplement Report	Field Interview	Reports	Total Activity
Totals	30	1	19	10	99	57	22	96	27	40	401

Parks/Recreation/Cemetery  
Monthly Report June 3, 2020

We had the opportunity to open the Recreation Center back up this past month and the number of people that are using it seems to grow a little every day. We have staff on duty right now the entire time the facility is open to make sure people are following the social distancing guidelines and cleaning on a regular basis. We have also blocked an hour off for just those in the high risk category for the virus. We will continue to open up more and more as we work through the phases of reopening. We are currently working on a plan for the next phase which begins Monday. In the meantime if you have not been to our RecDesk sight you need to visit. Sami has changed the format and we are now able to put out more information on the page and it a little more user friendly. Sami has been a true asset during the entire COVID shut down/reopening.

As you may already know the league decided to cancel the summer baseball/softball season. We are also working to put some things together for the kids to do this summer free of charge. We are looking at some camps, clinics and just some fun events for them to participate in while they are not playing baseball. We do have a few private teams that have decided to form and play this summer. We are working with them to use our fields for practices and games this summer.

Memorial Day was very successful at the cemetery this year. This is the first year in a few where a storm did not come in and blow the flags over or break poles. The guys worked very hard to make sure the cemetery looked nice and have received a lot of compliments on the work they did and have done in the past. This holiday also gave us the opportunity to use the new flag pole, if you have not been out and seen it please do it is very well done. The guys are back out mowing the cemetery this week, however they will not be removing any of the flowers or decorations around the stones until after Father's Day so it will not be mowed as close as we normally do so please keep this in mind if you go out there or here from someone in regards to the way it looks. We like to respect those who decorate the graves and give them time to enjoy them and time to remove them if they want to keep their flowers. Once removed we will then begin to prepare the cemetery for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

With the recent rains and the warmer weather has set the grass off and growing. We have been trying to keep up with it and the special events that we are working around as well. This past month they had a come and go Disc Golf Tournament, Memorial Day weekend around the lake, and the go-kart races this past weekend. This week we are preparing for the sprint track races, car show downtown, and the dual safari group that is coming in. Along with that we are trying to keep up with the normal mowing that we have to do and with and funerals and graves that need to be dug.

The decision to open the pool has not yet been made and is one that is not easy to make. I have been working very hard to keep up with what other communities are doing as far as their pools go. I have been on numerous pool meeting discussing the opening and closing of pools and why people are doing what they are doing. There is a lot of information out there to process and bring back and see if it is feasible at our pool to implement or if we need to look in another direction. There are many pools that will be making decisions in the next few weeks if they will open by their timeline. A lot of this has to do with staff and training issues. I have brought these things up in the past and will be meeting with my pool manager to discuss these things and all the other things to make sure we are on the same page when it comes time to make the decision on

the pool. Until then I will keep up to date on what is going on in the world of pools and where the current guidelines are at as far as operation of the pool.

I know I said this last time but it bears repeating because I have seen and am starting to experience a lot of backlash when it comes to the work I have been doing. We are going through some things that we have never seen before and we are making decisions that affect the summers of a lot of kids, parents, and others who just wanted to have a fun and relaxing summer. Never in my lifetime would I have thought I would be sitting here trying to decide the fate of our summer programs. It is something that weighs on me every day and these are not decisions I take lightly or make a snap judgements on. Rest assured I am doing all I can to keep up with all the information that is coming out so I can make that informed decision. I know at the end of the day some will agree and some will not. The fact of the matter is we have to do what we think is right for our community.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me

Thanks

Phil Bures

Parks and Recreation Director

**City of Garnett**  
**Office of Building and Zoning**  
**Gary Giczewski, City Inspector**

**06/03/20**

**RE: Activity Report**

- Zoning Update
  - Leslie & Loretta David are about to break ground this week for their new home being built at Lot #4 Prairie Links Dr.
- Comprehensive Plan Review
  - Review of optional changes for this coming 2020 plan review.
- Inspections & Plan Review
  - Performing inspections and reviews as needed by contractors
  - Observing properties for City Code violations and working with residences to help get them back into compliance when their properties start getting out of hand.

## May Report

We hauled 34.23 tons of sludge to the Anderson County Transfer Station. We received 5 loads of cleanup water from the Ethanol Plants yearly shutdown/cleanup.

I took my Wastewater Class 2 test and passed. Rusty completed his Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants from the California State University, Sacramento.

We sent in a blower and grit removal pump to get repaired. We helped the parks dept. with the weed eating and putting up flags at the cemetery for Memorial Day.

With all the rain we've been getting lately, there were several manholes over flowing all over town. We were keeping track of which ones and how long each one was overflowing. We have to have this information when we fill out the state bypass reports that have to be sent in when this happens.

Eric Trammell

Intern Wastewater Superintendent