



City Manager's Report

September 12th, 2017

Honorable Mayor Blackie and Commissioners Cole and Gwin,

I apologize for the delay in getting you the budget as I had previously expected to be done much quicker. I have constructed it in an effort to keep the mill levy as low as possible but in so doing you will notice that we are reducing our utility reserves substantially. Please let me know what dates and times work the best for you in order for us to hold a special meeting to go over the budget and answer your questions.

As it has been three weeks since our last meeting we have a lot to cover. City offices were closed over the Labor Day holiday and we have been playing catch up finding things that have been missed over the past few months. For instance, due to difficulties in the transition to a different software system at the beginning of this year, we have been late on all of our sales tax payments to the State. We are now caught up and are working to resolve the software issues, but we should not be late again with our payments. These software issues are widespread and are impacting many different aspects of our municipal operations. I will be working with our software provider, Encode – Tyler Technologies, to ensure that we have a satisfactory resolution.

You will notice our warrant ordinance this pay is unusually high as we have almost all of our bond payments due and three weeks of expenses rather than the normal two. The grind box at the skate park has been installed and we have completed the majority of our street work for the year. As you will see in the attached report, our wastewater treatment operation is functioning at a very high level and we are among the best in the state (7th percentile) in terms of our compliance with state regulations. The annual autumn City-wide rummage sale was held this weekend, followed by our autumn City-wide cleanup this week. Our local civic organizations

have taken on a community project of refurbishing and painting our “Welcome to Garnett” signs. The Lions Club will be rehabilitating the north sign and the Rotary Club will be revitalizing the south sign.

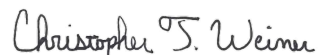
I participated in an emergency services planning session for Cornstock and attended a meeting in Chanute with the US-169 Coalition. This group’s focus is on expanding Highway 169 into a four-lane freight corridor, maximizing economic development opportunities for our communities along the route. I plan to keep attending these meetings and support this mission. Our next meeting is on September 20th, next Wednesday, if any of you would like to attend. I met with our local banking institutions as I plan to restructure our investments to maximize our returns and improve liquidity. I met with Kansas Fiber Network and they are going to start their line build in town on Park Street here in the coming months. I have also been in touch with their engineering firm who is ensuring that our existing poles can handle their lines. The Airport Advisory Board is moving their meeting time to the second Friday of every month at 10:00 A.M. There is also a vacant position on the Airport Advisory Board and as such we will be advertising the opening to obtain interested volunteers. On September 15th, this Friday, there is a KDOT Aviation workshop in Hutchinson that Mayor Blackie, Pat Shettler (a member of our Airport Advisory Board), and myself all plan to attend; if you are interested in attending as well, please let us know. The Kansas League of Municipalities’ annual conference begins the next day, September 16th, in Wichita. The Emergency Planning Training class I spoke about previously will be on October 16th, at 6:30 P.M. at the North Lake Community Building; Anderson County Emergency Management will be providing a meal.

As for the agenda items, the first item is a Proclamation to declare September 15th as National Prisoner of War/Missing In Action Recognition Day. Charter Ordinance 27 is an ordinance moving the Fire Department out of the General Fund and into a fund with the Police Department which will be easier to track for tax lid purposes. This action must be done via Charter Ordinance because we are expanding the scope of a tax levy fund (currently the Law Enforcement Fund). Ordinance 4192 establishes new budgetary funds for utilization in the 2018 budget and beyond. These funds are the Equipment Reserve Fund (used to make large equipment purchases), Wastewater Fund (used to separate wastewater operational revenues and expenses

from the Water Fund), Tax Refund Reserve Fund, and Tax Refund Litigation Fund (which are funds for transfers which have been budgeted for in this current year's budget and a fund has been created for this purpose, but an ordinance authorizing such fund was never approved). The next three (3) items are all resolutions granting approval for street closures for special events following the Cornstock Festival and Lake Garnett Grand Prix. Item G is a permit request for the sale of Cereal Malt Beverages (CMB) at Cornstock while item H is a request from Big Brothers Big Sisters to utilize the North Lake football stadium for a Cornhole Tournament on the day of the Cornstock Festival. Item I is the appointment of an individual to serve as one of our Directors on the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency's (KMEA) Board of Directors. Our Electric Power Plant Superintendent, Robert Mills, is our other Director. Like the recently approved appointment as our Director to the Kansas Municipal Gas Agency (KMGA) Board of Directors, I am willing to serve as the City's Director if that is your wish. This appointment is for an approximately two-year term to end April 30th, 2019. The last two items on the agenda are to set a date and time for a budget meeting and the approval of our semi-monthly claims. As for the budget meeting, I will try and make whatever work so that we can get it approved in as timely a manner as possible.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions and I appreciate the opportunity to serve you and this wonderful community as your City Manager.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher T. Weiner".

Christopher T. Weiner, City Manager