

GENERAL REPORT
February 9, 2016

1. I have enclosed a quote in the amount of \$24,294 to purchase a 2016 Dodge Charger. During budget preparation, the Commission approved a total expenditure of \$26,500 for this car. The remaining funds will be used to purchase lights and other equipment.

2. Several agreements are listed on the agenda for your consideration. These agreements are written in standard form. No rain dates have been selected for any of these events.

3. Also listed on the agenda are three (3) transient guest tax applications that were submitted and considered by the Tourism Advisory Board at their February 3, 2016 meeting. A copy of their minutes are enclosed. Please read these minutes carefully as they explain in detail why two (2) of the BPW applications were recommended for funding and one (1) was not. Rather than me going into much detail, I thought it best for you to see the minutes which Susan, Tom Emerson and I have reviewed to make sure the discussions were accurately reported.

The first BPW request in the amount of \$1,322.70 is for their annual square fair event. The board reviewed last year's follow-up report and voted unanimously to recommend your approval of this application.

The second BPW request in the amount of \$608.90 is for their women's fair. This is the sixth year for this event. The board discussed a difference in the attendance from last year's follow-up report to the new application and their belief that nothing much or new is being done to increase their attendance. One motion was made and failed for the lack of a second. However, further into the meeting a motion was made to recommend denial of this request for the reasons stated.

Their third request is for their Holiday Boutique. The board voted unanimously to recommend your approval of this application.

A fourth request for the G Town Smokin' Showdown was sent back to the sponsors requesting more information. That is noted in the tourism minutes.

4. All documents have been completed for the Marshall Wind Farm project. I have been somewhat amazed that some local people believe this project to be part of the proposal made to put structures in east and southeast Anderson County. I plan to include specific information in my next newsletter article so people will understand the correct location and how this project will work for Garnett.

5. The north sewer lift station is completely done. We can now concentrate our efforts on sewer line repair. John, Jay Norco and I have developed a plan and we should have bid documents the second meeting in February or no later than the first meeting in March.

6. Several of our advisory boards have vacancies. Parks and Recreation has three (3), Tourism has one (1) and the Garnett Community Foundation has three (3). I have a few suggestions for Tourism and will find time to give these people a call within the next few days. Please give me names of people you believe would be good members of these boards. Each of these committees play a very important role in our community.

7. Phil attended the Kansas Recreation & Park workshop in Dodge City this past week. He came home with some great ideas for new programs. While there, he received the Blue Chip Award that was given to Garnett after successful submission of a grant that included information on what we plan to do to continue our healthy activities at the recreation center and the partnerships we have with other organizations in the community. This includes a \$2,500 monetary award which will be used to purchase additional exercise equipment for the recreation center. A representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield will attend a commission meeting in March or April to present the monetary award. Six Kansas communities received this award.

8. As you might note in the tourism minutes, a few PRIDE surveys have been received. Desiree is working on a spreadsheet showing recommendations and comments. I will ask her to attend a meeting to present this information and will ask the commission to decide if you want to adopt a resolution to get this program restarted in Garnett.

9. Work continues on the new boat dock for Cedar Valley Reservoir. Phil plans to visit Allen County Community College to look at their ball field backstops that have netting rather than the chain link fencing. Phil believes the netting will be much better to use as it can be taken down after ball season which will extend its life. I have seen netting on several ball fields in the Olathe area and support the installation of it as well.

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