



City Manager's Report

January 23rd, 2018

Honorable Mayor Cole and City Commissioners Gwin and Brecheisen-Huss,

As I mentioned in my last report, we are undergoing a transition at City facilities with our phone and internet provider. We had a little bit bumpier transition than I had obviously hoped but I believe by and large the kinks are all worked out now. We still have to have some IT infrastructure installed and get the internet service extended to the utility shop, but we hope to have the majority of this accomplished within the next couple of weeks. We had three (3) submittals from consultants desiring to work for the City of Garnett with regard to updating our Airport Master Plan. After review and discussion, the Airport Board has recommended that we engage Garver to be our planning consultant for this project. Staff concurs with this selection as Garver has the most intricate knowledge of our airport, has shown the most interest in working with us, and has the best understanding of what our goals are. I have let the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) know of our selection and Garver will now begin work on developing a project scope to present to the FAA for their and our approval.

Unfortunately, it appears as if the Taylor Forge property is back on the market. Our Community and Economic Development staff will resume their efforts in marketing and promoting this site. Our department heads are working on developing a strategic plan and a set of goals for the next five (5) years. They are also putting together an asset replacement plan for the next five (5) years. I have included a breakdown, as requested, of our Christmas related expenses and how they compare to the past couple of years. While our cost was up this past year compared to last year, our cost per person served, even including the expenses incurred for the unrelated Christmas parade, was lower than in either of the two previous years.

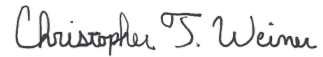
I have a trip scheduled with Rita Clary of the Kansas Rural Water Association (KRWA) to visit with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA-RD) on Tuesday, the thirtieth (30th) regarding financing options for our water treatment plant project.

As for the agenda, under public forum I expect to have Mrs. VanNorman and Mrs. Neuenschwonder present to talk about modifying our ordinances to allow a trap, neuter, and release program for cats. Item A is an agreement with Grand River Dam Authority (GRDA), from whom we purchase a majority of our electricity (68.2% in 2017), allowing us to sell back to them any excess electricity that we know we will not use on any given day. This sell-back procedure will be facilitated by the Kansas Municipal Energy Agency (KMEA). City Attorney Solander has reviewed the agreement jointly drafted by KMEA and GRDA and has relayed no significant concerns to me. I recommend approval as I believe this agreement has the potential to save the City a substantial amount of money. Item B is dealing with the reappointments of three of the six board member positions on the Airport Board. Attached is a roster breakdown of our existing boards and committees showing the expiring positions of Charles Allen, Ron Zimmerman, and Michael Brown from the Airport Board. My recommendation is to either reappoint all three as a slate as I believe they are all still interested in serving. For item C, I have yet to receive an amended agreement recommended by the Anderson County Development Authority (ACDA) to increase their membership to nine (9). If I receive the amendment prior to the meeting I will provide it to you as soon as possible for your review. With item D I am simply seeking your input on how you would like to move forward with regard to the Director of Economic Development position. A variety of options have been discussed, including just allowing the ACDA board to handle the process, soliciting candidates and then providing me with a list of candidates and a recommendation for hire as outlined in the agreement. If this is in fact the direction we wish to take, I would just like confirmation of this. For item E I have attached some documentation relating to water rates and possibilities. The last item is paying our semi-monthly bills in the amount of \$389,851.25. I know Mrs. Brecheisen-Huss has requested a detailed revenue and expense report for each month and we are working on getting our new budget built, which will allow us to run these reports.

I plan to attend Wednesday's Local Government Day at the Capital if any of you would like to ride up to Topeka and back with me, just please let me know.

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