



City Manager's Report

September 11th, 2018

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

As you know, over the past couple of weeks we have made progress on the 2019 budget and are hopefully close to finalizing a budget for next year. We have spoken with County Clerk Julie Heck regarding the five-member Commission question on the ballot and she has everything she needs and we should be seeing the published notice of question in our local media. We have been working on compiling information to submit on an economic development opportunity. I met with United States Senator Jerry Moran and discussed funding for our water plant project, the airport improvement plans, and our vision to see U.S. highway 169 expanded. I also again met with Mr. James Gainer regarding his ongoing legal case against the City. Director of Public Works Ken Amaya and I discussed our street and stormwater issues which have just recently came under his purview. Director Amaya also spoke with County Road and Bridge Director, Lester Welsh, and realized that there has been some miscommunication regarding our plans to chip and seal third (3rd) avenue this year. Director Welsh is unwilling to chip and seal third (3rd) avenue due to the current condition of the road. Therefore, we are looking at another stretch of street to chip and seal in addition to Walnut; Ken plans to discuss a stretch of Park Road for this purpose. Ken will meet with Director Welsh once he returns from vacation to finalize the plans. I observed our new mechanical pothole compression machine in action this past week and can attest to the increased effectiveness and efficiency it brings to our process of patching potholes. Hopefully, with this machine, we will be able to have our pothole patches last longer than they have in the past. As we did earlier this year for the Ethanol Plant's "American Chopper" motorcycle event, we are partnering with the school district and Cornstock to provide buses for transportation

between the event site and camping/parking sites. Like we did previously, we will pay for the expenses up front and Cornstock will reimburse us. We are unfortunately losing a few more exemplary employees in full-time Wastewater Operator Dever Scott, part-time Housing Maintenance Worker Keith Hermreck, and part-time Children's Librarian Katy Holloran. All of them have chosen to pursue other opportunities and we wish them nothing but the best as they have all provided excellent service to the City and our community. I have also been working to update our budget with new revenue and expense projections through the end of 2018 as well as making the changes you have requested to see for next year's proposed budget.

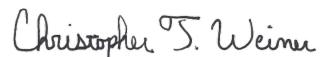
On the agenda we have a couple of minutes to approve as well as a proclamation to designate September 21st as National Prisoners of War and Missing in Action Recognition Day and an ordinance to adopt the Minimum Housing Code as presented in the draft City Code. City Attorney Terry Solander has indicated that the ordinance as written would be in conflict or duplicative of some provisions regarding unsafe structures in our existing code. Additionally, this procedure to condemn property would involve the City Commission to a far greater degree than our present procedure does. However, I believe these issues could be rectified if desired and this would help to address an ongoing issue we are having with people living in unsafe or inadequate structures. We also have a resolution similar to the one we recently passed for the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) but this one is broader in scope. As you know, I've been attending the U.S. 169 Coalition meetings whose mission is to see a safer, more efficient highway 169. This resolution is one that is being sought for approval by all communities along this corridor as a united, vocal front is imperative for success. We also need to discuss the dates for the Joint City/County meeting. October 22nd or 29th are the two Mondays that may work the best if everyone is available. Our semi-monthly bills this time total \$190,226.57.

This month's Employee of the Month is Nick Galey. Nick consistently goes above and beyond to accomplish the task at hand and improve our community. This past month he was asked by another department for help on a project that some felt was impossible, took ownership of the project, enlisted the help of his crew and the fire department, and accomplished the task in short order. Nick has also shown tremendous leadership in stepping up to lead his crew with reduced manpower while Director Amaya has not had the time to fulfill this role anymore. Mr.

Galey is an excellent employee and I am honored to award him with this month's Employee of the Month recognition. As you can see in our monthly financial report our cash position is sitting fairly well as of the end of August. That will obviously take a significant hit this month as we are making all of our remaining debt payments. However, I still feel as if we have had a good year thus far financially compared to our expectations and are sitting in a good position to end the year relatively flat with respect to our major operational funds. My biggest concern is the General Fund, both from a budgetary authority and a cash reserves perspective. I anticipate losing a significant amount of our reserves this year in the General Fund. Additionally, you will notice that it is the closest of all of our funds to being over budget thus far through the year.

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