



City Manager's Report

January 9th, 2018

City Commissioners Cole, Gwin, and Brecheisen-Huss,

The past couple of weeks have been busy with the Christmas and New Year's holidays, usual end of year work, a telephone and internet conversion at City Hall and the Police Department and a plethora of meetings. I have met with our United States Senator Jerry Moran, the County Commission, each of the banks in town, a natural gas utility consultant, the water system managers at multiple water plants in Eastern Kansas during tours, and the Friday meeting concerning the new water treatment plant. The telephone and internet conversion has had a few hiccups but they are largely worked out now and I believe this will prove to be a very beneficial transition long term. I have worked with each of our banks to restructure our certificates of deposit (CD's) as I addressed a few months ago in order to maximize the City's return on investment of our idle funds as well as to simplify and stagger our CD's to provide better access to those dollars if needed. In reviewing the transition we've made in terms of health insurance, I believe we have provided a better benefit to our City employees for a cheaper cost than what we could have achieved by sticking with similar plans as we have in the past. This successful transition is due in large part to the work of our Director of Human Resources, Nancy Hermreck, and Brett Bates, the health insurance consultant we hired. Comparing our new plan with United Healthcare to the cheapest renewal option we had with Blue Cross Blue Shield, we have added dental and vision insurance for all employees as well as a medical bridge plan which will reimburse our employees for emergency and larger scale medical costs – helping them to meet their deductible. The improved insurance plan has resulted in the City's employees electing to expand their coverage with three employees taking our insurance now (one employee only, one

employee and spouse, and one employee and children) when they didn't before, two employees who previously had an employee only plan switched to full family coverage, and eight employees took the City's dental and vision offer to cover their spouse or family while they keep the spouse or family's primary insurance provided from another entity. Copays for office visits did increase with this plan from a \$35 copay to a \$50 copay; however, employees with covered children under the age of nineteen (19) have no copay for office visits for those children.

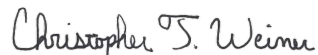
As for the agenda, I expect to have Mr. Bob Mills from the Lake Garnett Sporting Club in attendance to give a brief presentation of the programs and community benefits that the Sporting Club provides. We have two sets of meeting minutes to approve and the minutes from the Water Plant and the Joint City and County meeting will be on the agenda for approval at the January 26th, 2018 meeting. Item A under regular business is proclaiming January ninth (9th), 2018 as Law Enforcement Recognition Day (L.E.A.P.). I recommend supporting this resolution as it obviously shows our appreciate for our law enforcement officers. Item B is a resolution designating the Anderson County Review as our official newspaper as we are required to declare as such. While in the past the Anderson County Advocate was also an official newspaper of the City, they are no longer a legal entity in which to publish our legal notices and ordinances. Item C is a resolution passing a waiver stipulating that the City has elected to exempt itself from following the generally accepted accounting principals (GAAP) and instead will follow the cash basis and budget laws of Kansas. Passing this resolution is required annually by Kansas law if we wish to opt out of GAAP as the City historically has. Item D is the revised Go Kart Agreement from City Attorney Solander. Item E is the Claim for Damages as discussed previously. With Item F I am asking for your guidance and direction on how we wish to more forward concerning the water treatment plant's new design. I recommend that we go ahead and move forward with the design plan as is for the time being and we can make modifications along the way if needed. I will research grant and low forgiveness opportunities to try and find ways to keep the debt burden on our customers as low as possible. I will also pursue relationships with current and potential customers who may desire to take on additional water from the City, thereby broadening the debt burden over a wider customer base. However, I do believe we need to be prepared for the

worst (funding it entirely ourselves) as I always find a pleasant surprise with additional resources is easier to stomach than discovering the non-existence of planned and needed funds.

You will find the attached departmental reports and the most receive labor data from the State of Kansas. Anderson County is also sitting with an extremely good unemployment percentage as just 3.6% of the County's labor force is unemployed. This is just slightly above the State average at 3.5%. I highly recommend your attendance at Local Government Day in Topeka if you are able to attend. These are excellent opportunities to get to know our State Legislators and to give them an idea of how what they do affects our local government and residents. I will be attending as well and you are welcome to carpool with me if you would like. The City has purchased a corporate table for eight (8) at the Garnett Area Chamber of Commerce's Annual Banquet. I intended this to seat each of yourselves and your spouses, as well as myself and my wife. I believe these types of events are important for us to attend and show support for our local organizations who also strive to grow and improve our community.

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