



**City Manager's Office
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TO: City Council
FROM: Sam Anselm, City Manager
DATE: December 8, 2017
RE: Weekly Update

Good afternoon, everyone. Please see below for this week's update.

Key Meetings

- Outside of meetings with department heads, I attended the annual Joplin Regional Partnership meeting on Monday. We approved the budget and amended the bylaws to reflect a change in the number of attendees required to constitute a quorum. Brent Baker is the newly-appointed chair of the committee.
- On Tuesday, department heads and I met to review options for a new pay plan. After a discussion about what worked in the past, what didn't, we formed a general consensus that a simple plan that is sustainable over time is what works best, so we're developing one. The focus will be on moving employees through the range we already have for each position without looking to adjust the pay ranges through a market or pay study. This is and will be one of my top priorities over the next few weeks.
- Earlier today we had our initial conversation with the SWL to discuss terms of a possible lease. It was a productive conversation.

Department Updates

- From Parks:
 - Zimmer Radio Group recently named Schifferdecker Golf Course the best golf course in the four-state area.
 - Recreation staff has been going through training on our new recreation software, CivicRec, offered through CivicPlus. The software is more user-friendly and connects directly with IT and finance, which our previous software was unable to do.
 - Finally, on the construction front, the new shelter/amphitheater at Ewert Park is nearly finished, and lights were installed at the skate park.
- In Health news, Director Pekarek reports that we are scheduled to go live with the new Prescription Drug Monitoring Program on February 1st. Pharmacist registration is going on now, and will begin submitting data around January 1st. As we get closer to February 1st, physicians will start receiving communication that notifies them of the process for use of the database. Kudos to Director Pekarek for staying on top of this important program.
- A list of public works project updates will be attached to this email. PW staff is also beta testing the new change order/project management software developed in-house by our

engineering technician, Brandon Louderback. Data entry has been slowed by a temporary lack of administrative staff, but we will share the information as soon as it's been entered.

- Our police department was recently recognized as one on only four departments in the state that raised over \$100,000 for Special Olympics. For their efforts, they received Guardian+ designation. And they're also proud to announce that they beat the Fire department in this year's Salvation Army kettle challenge, collecting \$1,019.73 for the Salvation Army, compared to the fire department's \$779.98. The fire department won the challenge last year, so the score is tied 1-1.
- From my office, Taylor Cunningham is setting up meetings with MoDOT and the local trucking association this month to talk about the Main Street restriping project. We're also planning two workshops with downtown businesses in early January.

Holiday schedule note – I will be out of the office December 26th-January 2nd. Director Hertzberg will be in charge during my absence.