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**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Sam Anselm, City Manager  
**DATE:** March 16, 2018  
**RE:** Weekly Update

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- This week was pretty quiet in terms of meetings, outside of visiting with department heads. Councilman Stanley, Mary Anne Phillips and I did spend this morning at North Middle School hearing presentations from South and North students about ideas to increase curbside recycling. Our goal is to have one group from each school give a presentation at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting to share their ideas.
- From our parks director:
  - Mulching of trees and flower beds has begun in our parks (a bit earlier than years past) before we move into full-blown mowing/trimming.
  - Staff has been contacted by a fraternity at MSSU that is interested in volunteering with the parks department throughout the year. Our plan is to use them for recreation programs and special events.
  - The Historic Preservation Board has formed a sub-committee to start looking at the possibility of having our cemeteries and local parks designated as historical, beginning with our cemeteries first.
  - Recently the Park Board approved an MOU with the Rotary Sculpture Garden Committee to use Mercy Park as a sculpture garden/park, similar to Benson Park in Loveland, Colorado. Since Mercy Park was designed to be a passive park, staff believes this is the perfect location to add sculptures and attract visitors. The Committee is made up of a Rotary members, representatives from the art community, and the CVB and Parks directors.
  - Finally, the Joplin Adult Soccer group gave a presentation to the Park Board to discuss their fundraising efforts to upgrade the lights at the Landreth Park soccer field. The estimated cost for the upgrade is \$40,000, and the Park Board will be working with the group to accomplish this project.
- The purchase order for our body-worn cameras for the PD was issued earlier this week. We expect arrival and deployment of the cameras within about six weeks.
- Interviews have been scheduled for early April to select a new Third Party Administrator to handle our risk management claims.
- Finally, just a reminder about the invitation from Chief Stewart for you to attend the annual JPD awards banquet on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Please let me or Chief Stewart know if you plan to attend.

Please let me know if you have questions about any of these items. See you Monday night!