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TO: City Council
FROM: Sam Anselm, Interim City Manager
DATE: 7/18/2014
RE: Weekly Report

Good afternoon, everyone. Here is this week's report.

Key Meetings

- As with last week, the bulk of my time this week has been spent on budget meetings with department heads. I will have a clearer budget picture to paint for you after these meetings conclude on Monday and after finance staff inputs the changes, but I can tell you so far that the picture isn't much prettier than what I described to you in last week's report.
- As I mentioned Monday night, members of the planning staff and I met with Mercy representatives on Wednesday to begin discussing plans for the former St. John's hospital site. Some preliminary concepts were discussed and we are hoping to present you with a concept plan at our August 11th meeting when Wallace-Bajjali gives their update. This would be a great fit for CDBG funding, and it would be a project that you and staff would be proud to have our name associated with.

Miscellaneous

- Our city clerk's office received word from Jasper and Newton counties that the state auditor has submitted the petitions to their offices for validation. According to Barbara, Jasper County expects to have their verification completed around the end of August, as they have pre- and post-election prep work to focus on now.
- PW Director Heatherly provided me with an update on the overlay of Main Street that I wanted to pass along to you. In an effort to spend as little funds from TST, we are investigating using CDBG-DR funds to overlay the portion of Main Street from 15th to 32nd, and doing spot repairs which would include milling the rough spots, micro-surfacing, and re-striping. They are working on cost estimates now to confirm if this will be a more economical solution. With the use of CDBG-DR funds, we could also look at doing an enhanced streetscape from 15th to 32nd, similar in concept to what has been done in the Sunshine Lamp District. Stay tuned.

- An article appeared earlier this week in the Joplin Globe concerning the CID at the mall. The article indicated that Council had yet to appoint the CID board, but I wanted to clarify with you that when you approved the CID, you also approved the board appointments. So there is no further action that you need to take with respect to the mall CID at this time.
- I will ask Director Heatherly to give an update on the status of various street construction projects during our meeting on Monday. I also plan to discuss the actions we have taken to date and in response to citizens' requests at our last meeting about the tent and awning business down on 32nd.
- Finally, I have had two requests for possible ordinances for you to consider. The first involves setting occupancy limits for residential dwellings, at the request of Councilman Glaze. I have asked our planning & zoning staff to review the draft ordinance that our city attorney's office prepared, before I submit it to you for consideration. The second ordinance involves a ban on smoking in all public parks. Our parks director and parks board would like to move forward with that ordinance, so I have asked legal to review the draft prior to presenting it to you.

Thank you for your time, and let me know if you have any questions about these or other items. Otherwise, please enjoy your weekend, and we'll see you Monday night.