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TO: City Council  
FROM: Sam Anselm, Interim City Manager  
DATE: 9/5/2014  
RE: Weekly Report

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Good morning, everyone. Please see this week's report below. It was a pretty quiet week for meetings, so this week's update is a bit shorter than normal.

The auditors have been keeping our staff busy this week, and will likely do so for the next several weeks until we adjust to the new normal while they're here. So if you have any needs or questions of our finance department, in particular, I ask for your patience in getting a response.

### **Key Meetings**

- On Tuesday, City Attorney Edwards, Councilman Glaze and I met with two representatives of the finance committee to discuss the recent council charge to have them review the budget. A full meeting was posted for today; Director Haase will attend to answer any of their questions. I explained to the chairman and to the group that at some point in the future I would like their input on other topics, including our budget process and our purchasing rules and regulations, which in my opinion are also in need of examination.
- On Wednesday we had a conference call with the EDA, Wallace-Bajjali and CBC to discuss the process moving forward on the development of the library in conjunction with the theater and associated development at 20<sup>th</sup> and Connecticut. The meeting went well, and EDA officials asked for a letter from us to amend the grant agreement to update them on the scope of work, the budget, and a revised timeline for construction. The original agreement stated that construction on the library would begin by November of this year, but they understand the need to push back that date to allow us to develop the scope and budget for the project. We will have some public meetings in the near future to begin shaping the project, so be listening for those dates once they're finalized.
- On Thursday, members of staff and I attended a meeting at the Chamber offices to begin the initial planning process for the fifth year anniversary of the tornado, on Sunday, May 22, 2016. The committee is obviously still in the early stages of planning for the event, but I will keep you posted as developments occur and if/how the city plans to be engaged.

It is a citizen-driven committee, and I've pledged the city's and staff's participation as a resource when the need arises.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Staff has been approached about the possibility of selling the lots across from the Memorial Hall parking lot and adjacent to the former Joe Harding location. The purpose would be to build parking to support a business being planned to move into the Joe Harding building. I have been asked to gauge your interest in that idea; the next step would be to declare the property as surplus and put it up for sale. ***Please let me know if you're in favor of or against this idea, at your earliest convenience.***
- As a heads up, we will be closing Davis next week for KCSRR to make repairs to the track, scheduled to take place from Tuesday-Friday. Notices have been delivered to adjacent businesses and we'll alert the media as is our practice, but the goal is to eventually have the entire street resurfaced from 32<sup>nd</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> as part of the state \$14 million recovery monies; the overlay will take place at a later date.
- There will be no Wallace-Bajjali update meeting on Monday night. Work continues on the 20<sup>th</sup> & Connecticut project, and another citizen meeting is scheduled for next week. JRC will also take place next week, so we plan to have the regular update in October. It's rare that we have a Monday night off in September, so please enjoy.
- I also received word this morning that PW will soon be assisting Downtown Joplin by installing bicycle racks downtown. This will be a nice addition/amenity to the downtown area.

Finally, Brian Kelly and I will be out of the office September 14<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup> attending the annual ICMA conference, including during our Council meeting on September 15th. Upon our return we will compile a summary of the conference, the meetings we attended, etc. for your review.

Please enjoy your weekend, and let me know if I can assist you with anything that comes up.