City Manager Report
February 2018

Highlights

C-Span Visits Shawnee and City Commission Meets

Mayor Richard Finley welcomed C-Span to Shawnee on Tuesday, February 6 at the Shawnee Public Library as they kicked off a visit to record the history and non-fiction literary life of Shawnee on the cable network’s non-fiction book channel BookTV (on C-SPAN2) and history channel American History TV (on C-SPAN3). Thank you Vyve Broadband for helping to make this happen. The video segments can be viewed at: https://www.c-span.org/series/?citiesTour&city=6741

The Shawnee City Commission held a workshop on March 1 at the Shawnee EXPO. Commissioners heard an update on completion of the EXPO Master Plan and community emergency shelters and sirens. They also discussed capital improvements and the possibility of taking a temporary sales tax increase to voters in 2018.

New City Website Launches Soon!

The City of Shawnee will launch a new website in late-March or early-April. A preview of the homepage appears below. The new site incorporates the adopted community branding elements and highlights the City and community in a visually stunning way. It will also provide an efficient way for the public to utilize services, catch up on news and events, and seek assistance.

Meetings and Noteworthy Items

City Commission – March 19, April 2
(Note: All regular Commission meetings now start at 6:00 PM in 2018)

Planning Commission – April 4

Beautification – April 19

Other Important Dates:

3rd Friday Block Party – April 20, May 18

Redbud Festival - April 20-21

Other Events:

www.visitshawnee.com/Calendar

http://www.shawneeexpo.org/calendar.html

Board Openings:

Traffic Commission

Note: Applications can be obtained: www.shawnecok.org/gov/Boards/
OTHER UPDATES BY DEPARTMENT

Finance/Treasurer Report

Sales Tax. February deposit of January sales tax collected was $1,652,541 compared to February 2017 we are down $23,872 or 1.42 percent. For the year, the City is up 1.12 percent which is below what was budgeted for this fiscal year.

Shawnee Municipal Authority

Master Plan Implementation. In 2014, the SMA adopted a Comprehensive Water and Wastewater Master Plan which evaluated all water supply, water treatment, collection systems and wastewater treatment facilities. The Plan included a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) with recommendations for prioritization and phasing of the recommended short term (0-5 years and 5-10 years) and long term (10-20 years) Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) projects. The City Commission hired an engineering consultant, C.H. Guernsey, to lead the effort to design and construct the first phase of improvements. Guernsey and staff had an official kickoff meeting March 24, 2017 that started with a presentation by Guernsey and ended with Guernsey and SMA staff touring the Southside Sewer Plant, Water Treatment Plant and the Northside Sewer Plant. Guernsey conducted a detailed immersion of the plants on April 27 and 28. SMA staff and Guernsey presented the Capital Improvement Plans to DEQ on Tuesday, May 9, 2017.

At this time, engineering work is about 35% complete. Staff toured the Midwest City plant on Friday, October 27, 2017. Staff toured 3 Wastewater Plants in Austin, TX in November to get a look at what the new proposed Southside Wastewater Plant could resemble. Staff along with Guernsey toured the El Reno SBR sewer plant in January 2018. On January 17 Guernsey provided a comprehensive update to the City Commission at their special meeting/workshop. City and Guernsey staff had a work shop February 7 at Public Works. The material covered at the work shop was where we’re at with the engineering of the Southside sewer plant, Northside sewer plant and water plant. Guernsey gave a presentation to SMA staff on February 14 on UV disinfection for a unit process at both sewer plants.

Operations Department (Parks, Cemetery, Fleet Management)

Classes at the Community Center: (call 275-3986 for more information)

Martial Arts- Monday, Wednesday and Friday 6-8:30 pm ($)
Pound Course- Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30-6:30 pm ($)
Open Gym- Monday- Friday from 12-1pm and from 3-5pm, basketballs and various other equipment available (18 laps = 1 mile)
Engineering and Streets

Rehab Concrete Streets Project. The project contractor is finishing work on N. Pottenger Street and will be moving on to Chapman, Chandler and Madeline.

Kickapoo Street from Farrall to Spur. The second set of Preliminary Right-of-Way and Utility Plans were submitted for review. A meeting is scheduled with POE and Associates to go over changes and revisions needed before meeting with ODOT.

Avedis/City Sidewalk Project. The second phase of this project has begun starting on the east side of Broadway just north of Highland. They have completed approximately twelve blocks to date and will continue along the east side until they reach Federal Street. Currently, working between Independence and Elizabeth.

Planning Department

Clean-up Efforts. The Action Center maintains a very active caseload, with numerous complaints received daily. For a complete list of Action Center cases or to submit a complaint anonymously online, see: http://www.shawneeok.org/actioncenter/default.asp

Transportation Alternatives Program. The City was notified in August 2016 that its application to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for a Transportation Alternatives Program grant was approved. The planned sidewalk will bridge a critical missing gap along MacArthur Street east of Harrison. The Avedis Foundation has agreed to provide matching funds equal to ten percent of the project cost. Staff is working with ODOT on scheduling of this project. The Shawnee Engineering Department is providing the engineering design of this project, saving the City considerable funds. The project is expected to ready to bid in Spring 2018 pending ODOT approval.

Comprehensive Plan Update. The City is starting the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan – a long range planning document that encompasses all aspects of the community and helps to ensure positive long-term growth and development. On February 20, the City Commission approved a contract with the planning firm RDG to assist the City with this process. Public meetings and outreach efforts will begin soon and the process should be concluded in approximately one year.

Fire Department

Station 2 Rehab/Renovation. Work continues on this project and the better weather is helping progress. The three-week outlook by the contractor, includes completion of the roof and beginning the exterior sheathing and brick. This project is scheduled to be completed in late-Spring.

Hydrant Flowing (ISO requirement). Work continues on this project.

Hydrant Painting (ISO requirement). Work continues on this project.
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Blue Card Incident Command Certification. Nine (9) Fire Department Captains are now enrolled in the Blue Card program. They have been given until March 31, 2018 to complete the 50-hour online portion of the class. Our Blue Card Command Training Center will be operational beginning Tuesday, March 13.

Police Department

Administration. The City is finalizing the budget and the contract for the IACP grant. The donated car for the chaplain program is in and receiving graphics. SPD is preparing for a LESO equipment audit in March and are preparing for the assessors visit in April for accreditation. We are working through the Lexipol policy process. The policies are being administered and accepted a few at a time.

Patrol. New officers have started with the department. They have begun their CLEET or FTO training. We are in the process of hiring three new officers. We have all the motorcycle gear ordered and should be able to get the motorcycle on the street in March. Community Oriented Policing officers are attending many neighborhood and organization meetings. The COPS program is off to a great start with many good reviews from the citizens.

Animal Welfare. Staff is working with Lowes to start some adoption weekends in the next few months. We are working with SMA to repair the sewer line for the remodeled building so we can use it this Spring. The Animal Shelter is still looking for volunteers. Applications are available at the shelter.

Dispatch. We currently have open positions in the communications center and are holding presentations with the public to better educate them about the process they will encounter when calling 911.

Emergency Management


Regional Airport

Bonnie Wilson stated work as the new Airport Manager on January 22. Ms. Wilson have an extensive aviation background including over sixteen years of service at the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority in Mississippi, where she held several positions including: Director of Public Safety and Operations, Chief Operating Officer, Interim Chief Executive Officer and Chief Administrative Officer. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in History and Public Administration from the University of Houston and is a Certified Member of the American Association of Airport Executives.

Aviation Safety Seminars offered by the Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team (FAAST) will be held at the Shawnee Regional Airport March 15, 2018 -- Owner Maintenance/Preventative Maintenance and Accident Avoidance and April 19, 2018 -- Automatic Dependent Surveillance – Broadcast (ADS–B). For more information contact the Shawnee Regional Airport (405) 878-1633.
Shawnee Regional Airport Hosts Oklahoma Forestry Services’ Firehawks - Annual Wildland Fire Season has arrived and the Shawnee Regional Airport is playing an essential part of the wildfire emergency response. Firehawk helicopters, crew, and equipment stage at the airport, ready to launch an aerial attack on wildland fires. These aircraft can fly at the rate of 138 miles per hour to water sources nearest the scene of the fire. Load, carry and deliver up to 800 gallons of water and foam to the hottest parts of wildland fires often inaccessible to ground based fire fighters.

Future Aviators - The ladies of the Shawnee Middle School Cheer Squad joint the “jet set” to have their yearbook photo taken this year. Cheer Squad Coach Michelle McCormick arranged for the aviation experience with Shawnee Regional Airport based flight school FlyOKAir owner Wes Elliott, Airport Advisory Board member Mr. Donald “Andy” Freeman provided the aircraft. Coach McCormick’s squad often fly through their moves on the sports fields, but she set a goal of introducing these 7th and 8th grade students to a different kind of flying. Supporting Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education begins with these types of opportunities. Thanks Coach!