City Manager Report

January 2018

Highlights

C-Span Visits Shawnee!

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). In conjunction with its cable partner, Vyve Broadband, C-SPAN producers will reveal the stories and segments that will be explored by the national network. Local segments recorded during the week of February 4-7 will air on BookTV (on C-SPAN2, Vyve Broadband channel 20) and American History TV (on C-SPAN3, Vyve Broadband channel 21) throughout C-SPAN's special Shawnee weekend, March 3-4.

Police Department Lands Major Grant

The City of Shawnee is pleased to be one of six agencies in the United States that was selected as a demonstrate site that will focus on law enforcement response to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The initiative, Integrity, Action, and Justice: Strengthening Law Enforcement Response to Domestic and Sexual Violence, will provide dedicated resources and technical assistance to selected agencies. This national effort is led by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), supported by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) and in partnership with the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI).

According to Police Chief Mason Wilson, “this grant is an exciting opportunity for the Shawnee Police Department and the citizens of Shawnee. The Shawnee Police Department will help establish strategies and policies for domestic and sexual violence, assisting officers and victims nationwide. Shawnee officers will receive training to ensure victims of domestic and sexual violence receive the best services and support possible. This grant will allow resource sharing with local and national advocacy groups. We are very fortunate to have so many local advocacy resources and this grant will strengthen these resources.”

Commission Plans for the Future

On January 17, the City Commission held their first workshop for the new year. The conversation centered on major capital improvements and included an update on the City’s efforts to improve water and wastewater treatment infrastructure. The next workshop is scheduled for March 1 at 11:00 AM at the Shawnee EXPO. The public is encouraged to attend.
OTHER UPDATES BY DEPARTMENT

Finance/Treasurer Report

Sales Tax. January deposit of December sales tax collected was $1,573,267 compared to January 2017 we are up $14,558 or .9324 percent. For the year, the City is up 1.53 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 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. SMA met with Guernsey Engineering and Lemke Survey on June 16 to discuss surveying of the plants. Survey crews began surveying the week of August 21.

Engineering work is 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. On January 17, 2018 Guernsey provided a comprehensive update to the City Commission at their special meeting/workshop.

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 ($)  
Pound Course- Tuesday and Thursday starting January 16th from 5:30-6:30 pm ($)  

Engineering and Streets

Rehab Concrete Streets Project. The project contractor is currently working on N. Pottenger Street.

Kickapoo Street from Farrall to Spur. 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. Anticipate being able to begin right-of-way acquisition mid-2018.

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 ten blocks to date and will continue along the east side until they reach Federal Street.
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.

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. The City is currently reviewing proposals from professional consultants that seek to assist the City with the process. It is expected that the new Comprehensive Plan will be adopted in March 2019. The process will involve extensive public outreach and work by various boards and committees. More information will be forthcoming.

Fire Department

Station 2 Rehab/Renovation. Work continues on this project. The roof and insulation are being installed on the north side of the building.

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

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

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 50hr online portion of the class. Currently, the Fire Department is working towards development of a Blue Card Command Training Center at Fire Station 3.

Police Department

Administration. The Police Foundation Banquet had a record turnout. The SPD was awarded a grant through the IACP for $450,000 for the next 18 months. This grant will fund training towards domestic and sexual violence (see headline on Page 1)

Patrol. New officers have started with the department. They have begun their CLEET or FTO training. We are in the process of hiring two new officers. Community Oriented Policing officers are attending neighborhood meetings and functions to allow them to better know the citizens in their designated areas.
Animal Welfare. We are still working on improving the experience at the Animal Shelter. We are focused on more interaction between volunteers and potential animal owners with the animals at the shelter. Adoptions, rescues, and reuniting the animals with their owners remains at an all-time high. The Animal Shelter is still looking for volunteers. Applications are available at the shelter.

Dispatch. The County 911 board held their monthly meeting at the Shawnee City Hall and toured the facility. We continue to work together to ensure the best possible services for the citizens of Pottawatomie County.

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.

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