



May 11, 2020

City Manager's Report

The City continues to work with State and Local health department officials to keep our citizens and staff safe as the COVID-19 disease continues in the United States. As I write this, 4.14 million people worldwide are reported to have been infected, and more than 283,000 are reported to have died. In the US, reports are 1.33 million people have been infected and nearly 80,000 dead. In Oklahoma, reports tell us there have been 4,616 cases resulting in 273 deaths, 3204 recovered and 1,139 active cases.

Because of the rapid spread of the disease, Americans were asked to limit their exposure by sheltering in place and self-quarantining. Those measures have likely worked, as we have not seen hospitals at or near capacity in most of the country. At this time, we are all interested in getting back to work to preserve jobs and reinvigorate the economy. As the country starts to reopen, I would like to remind people to take basic steps to continue to reduce the spread of disease. Social distancing and hand washing will continue to reduce infection. An account of our continued response along with information and resources is available at www.cityofcrescent.com/covid19.

Roads: We will resume using hot patch for our repairs now that the weather has warmed up. We are preparing to lay asphalt at the library parking lot in completion of our REAP grant. We are planning projects that include cleaning plugged drain culverts and adding additional culverts where required. We still have budget left in our street & alley fund, so paving projects will be a big focus in May and June.

Admin: Sales Tax, April: \$41,924.80 We are currently 83% of the way through the fiscal period, reports show that General Government has spent 85.4% of our planned expenditures and received 89.0% of our expected revenues. Those numbers look good but include insurance funds for damages incurred through the year. Actual tax revenues have declined substantially below our budget projections, and the City continues to take steps to reduce expenses and cut costs. Public Works have spent 81.6% of our planned expenditures and received 86.0% of our expected revenues. Again...these numbers are skewed by receipt of insurance and grant funds. Because of the economic effects of the decline in the oil & gas industry and the COVID-19 disease shutdown, further steps to cut costs will be required.

Projects: The water meter contractor has installed a fixed antenna on the old water tower behind the Fire Department, as that location showed the best radio signal. They are completing the final configuration of our auto read water meters as soon as the hardware installation personnel can secure airline travel. The SCADA system is functioning to control our freshwater system. We had a radio receiver fail, but it was replaced under warranty. The wastewater part of the SCADA system will take another couple months to complete. The library parking and driveway project is prepared for final compaction and asphalt when the weather is warm enough to install it. The irrigation pivot at the sewer



lagoons collapsed. Insurance partially covered the loss and the balance will be funded out of city reserves. The new pivot is installed and functioning at this time. The sewage grinder failed and replacement options are still being investigated. I may have quotes available by the City Council meeting, but they have not been received at this time. We are able to maintain the grates without the grinder, but the chances for pumps clogging is increased. I hired Mike Prosser to replace the culvert pipe at the sewer lagoon access road, as we don't have equipment large enough to complete the work. We used FEMA funds to purchase 125 tons of rock to fortify the sewer lagoon levy roads, we will need the same amount again to complete the work. We are investigating using geocell material to prevent the rock from sinking. FEMA and Insurance have funded the damages to the vehicles. I propose using those funds to put 50% down on two new vehicles and financing the balance through F&M bank. I discussed the Pool Project with Diane Waldrige last week and when the contractor and engineer are comfortable having another face to face meeting, we will continue to move forward.

Parks: Park maintenance is underway. I have asked our landscape expert to spray the parks for stickers, as they appear particularly bad this year. We also discussed a multi-year plan for eradication of stickers and general improvement of the turf quality at the parks. The playground equipment, stage, marketplace and pavilion remain closed, but the rest of the parks and walking track are open to enjoy some time outdoors. The splash pad will remain closed due to the collapse of the irrigation pivot at the sewer lagoons and the increased water levels. When we are able to reduce the water levels in the lagoons to safe and manageable levels, we will reopen the splash pad.

Library: Currently closed. The librarian has been assisting with folks who would like to join the free virtual services offered by our library on the Overdrive platform. If you enjoy reading or listening on your mobile device, please check out this free service. You may virtually check out many library resources including books and audio books for free.

-Ryan Wallace, City Manager