

Prior to the start of the board meeting on October 16, 2017, I informed the board of a meeting I had attended where MoDOT announced they are looking for an engineering firm to do a traffic study, survey work and some conceptual designs for a new Hwy 47 overpass at Hwy 61. The designs and traffic study are supposed to handle traffic through the year 2042. The estimated construction budget for the project would be \$8,160,000.00. MoDOT will be selecting the engineering firm sometime around the middle of November. There is no announced timetable for the beginning of construction, but I have to believe that it won't be too far into the future based on this announcement. I plan to be in close contact with MoDOT and whatever engineering firm they choose to make sure that the City of Troy has whatever input is necessary to ensure that the overpass will bring maximum benefit to the city. I will keep you informed with any additional information as it becomes available.

The Board of Alderman met on October 16, 2017 and took the following actions;

They authorized the Mayor to sign Aid Agreement for Care Trak Services among Lincoln County Health Department, City of Troy, Lincoln County Ambulance District, Lincoln County Fire Protection District No. 1 and Lincoln County Sheriff's Department. This is a program that is strictly voluntary, for people that have issues with walking away from their home and then cannot find their way back.

The board approved a zoning amendment from I-2 to C-3 and a conditional use permit for Mountain Top Motor Company, to be located southeast of the intersection of Bueneman Lane and John Deere Drive as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission. They then approved the site plan and building permit for Mountain Top Motor Co.

They approved a change order submitted by Double J Roofing on emergency roof repair in the amount of \$1,328.30 for missing pipe jacks and detaching/resetting the screens of the gutter. Then approved the final payment to Double J Roofing in the amount of \$71,355.73.

Approved the liquor license application for Brown's Around the Block Butcher Shop, LLC, 185 E. Cherry St.

Approved and authorized the Mayor to sign Jani-King Cleaning Services Annual Agreement through November 2018.

Heard a presentation from DeWitt Ins., David Berneking, for insurance quotes and approved insurance broker recommendation for City of Troy personal property/vehicle insurance policies.

Approved a request for a home occupation permit by Benjamin Kuhn, applicant for "T-Rex Small Arms Sales" for Firearms Sales.

Awarded the Request for Qualifications for engineering/construction inspection service to Cochran Engineering on the Mennemeyer Rd. Improvement Project.

Approved Change Order No. 3 submitted by Wehmeyer Farms, Inc. for Harris St. and Hwy 47/Carrington water main replacement for boring asphalt in the amount of \$3,000.00.

In the Police Department, Chief Taylor attended a De-escalation Instructor Course in Newton, KS from October 16, 2017 to October 18, 2017. The entire course including transportation, food and hotel were at no charge to the City of Troy. The course and the cost of attendance were covered by Blue Shield

Tactical Systems. The Chief is now qualified to train the remainder of the Troy Police Department. The two new police vehicles are on the street, as well as the two K-9 vehicles we purchased from the Highway Patrol and they are running well.

In Public Works, they placed 7 tons of asphalt in pothole patching and/or full depth repairs on E. Cherry St., Trojan Circle Dr., Wingate Subdivision, Kemper St., Estates Dr., Juanita St., and the city parking lot behind Mustang Sally's. In concrete street repairs/maintenance, they placed 36.5 cubic yards of concrete for street repairs to Hawthorn Ct. second phase and White Oak Ct. They poured 4 slabs back on Palace Way Dr., as well as replaced a storm drain inlet. In Stone Bridge subdivision, they poured two slabs back at Parkway Dr.

The Water Dept. pumped 38,728,000 gallons of water in September with an average daily flow of 1,291,000 gallons and the high date was the 26th with 1,415,000 gallons pumped. All bacteriological samples were reported absent of any contamination.

In the Sewer Dept., they smoked tested 48,765 feet of sewer main and 187 manholes looking for potential leaks in the system. Remember, clean water, whether it be rain water or water from a home, is very bad for the sewer plants. They located numerous separated sewer main joints and damaged lateral connections; these are in the process of being bid for repair. While inspecting a line with the camera, they discovered a gas line that belongs to Ameren had been bored through our sewer line; Ameren has been notified to make the repair. They treated 3,500 feet of sewer main to remove deposits and treated the sewers for FOG (fats, oils and grease), as well as roots. They counted Troy's manholes and measured the sewer mains to form a more efficient and accurate schedule for inspecting the entire system. The current map shows 397,270 feet of sewer main and 1,664 manholes. Finally, they developed a new manhole inspection form that is considerably easier to use and collects more useful information.

All eight sirens were tested and found to be working properly.

Sales tax deposits for October of 2017 were just a scant more than deposits for October of 2016. The 1% Local Sales Tax was .33% higher, the ½% Transportation tax was .09% less and the ½% Capital Improvement's tax was .32% more than October 2016. For the 2017-2018 fiscal year, our sales tax receipts are up by 1.20% as compared to the same period in FY 2017. In comparing the current fiscal year to the prior fiscal year, we find that sales taxes are up slightly. Building and license fees have had a dramatic increase over the prior year. Fines and court costs, however, have decreased by 41%. Interest receipts have increased dramatically attributable to higher interest rates and more aggressive investing as compared to past years. Water and sewer revenues are up due to the rate increase. Also, we have had 18 sewer rights-to-connect as compared to 15 in the same period last year.

Speaking of the connections, in the month of September, we had nine new housing starts.

In Parks and Recreation, the bathrooms are shut down for the winter now that organized sports are done for the year. Aeration and over seeding are taking place as well as some grading. The swimming pool has been winterized. Work on the Weinand Park playground is finished. We removed a lot of the old mulch, leveled the play area and installed a barrier around the perimeter. The fountain has been removed from the duck pond and sent off for repair. Lately, there has been an issue with people parking on the grass. Chief Taylor advised the police have talked to people and even handed out a few tickets.

In the Administration Department, they are working on the open enrollment meetings for December and working with the broker for health insurance bids. I should have more information on that subject after the next board meeting.

Since the City has sold approximately 9 acres in the industrial park to Mountain Top Motors, we will be extending a sanitary sewer line up the hill from the sewer plant. That same line will be able to be used for some other properties, which could open some opportunities for growth in the city.

On the East Cherry St. improvement project, we are still moving ahead. I have people asking all the time - when are we going to start construction? We are in the process of getting all the easement paperwork in order. We need permission from the property owners along Cherry St. to move utilities back and to temporarily use a portion of their property for a construction easement. This is a strip of ground where the contractor can pile dirt, park equipment or store supplies needed for construction. There are fifty-two parcels that we need easements for and to date we have signed paperwork from thirty-four. The remaining owners are looking for compensation and the city doesn't have anything in the budget for that on this project. Hopefully we can resolve these issues shortly so that we can begin construction soon.

For all of you that are interested, I will be on the radio, KWRE AM 73 Livewire program, on November 29th, 2017 from 9am to 10am - so listen in and call with your questions.

I want to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy your time with friends and family. I know Phyllis and I will because our son Frank and his wife Jennifer, along with baby Amilee, will be here. That means all our children and grandchildren will be together for the first time in a long time.

If you would do me a favor and forward/share this to people that you know, so more people can see it and be informed that would be greatly appreciated. So, until next month be safe, be kind to one another and God Bless you all.