

Jim Palenick

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Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2014 3:32 PM
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Subject: Town Manager's Weekly Report (#100)

Mayor & Board of Aldermen:

Please accept the following as the **Town Manager's Weekly Report for the Work Week-ended, Wednesday, November 26, 2014.**

- You may recall that earlier this calendar year, when we were developing the current fiscal-year Budget, we approached the Gastonia ABC Board about revenue distribution for and from the Dallas ABC Store operated on our behalf by the Gastonia System. At that time, while we had yet to ever receive a yearly profit distribution from the Dallas store because we had theretofore been seeing net profits go back to pay for the original up-front/start-up costs of the store, we were projected to see our first yearly profit distribution in FY2014-15 – which the ABC system projected at \$4,000.00. To that end, I met today with ABC executive Director Larry Beck and was pleasantly surprised to hear that the Dallas store has yielded a yearly profit distribution of \$6,000.00. for the current fiscal-year. In fact, I was presented with a check in that amount before leaving the meeting.
- At the last Board Meeting, when we approved the purchase of the new back-up electric generator for the water treatment plant, we advised that delivery of the new unit could take 10-15 weeks, and the rental of the temporary unit from CAT (the vendor of the new unit) would be \$1,700/week. At that time we advised that we wouldn't release the purchase order for the new unit until we could negotiate better terms on the temporary unit while awaiting delivery. I am now pleased to report that such an outcome has been accomplished. Specifically, Cat will now focus their efforts on repairing our damaged unit as quickly and inexpensively as possible – just to get it workable as the short-term answer and ultimately to maximize its sale value when we surplus it. But, further, for any time we do have to rent their unit, they will cap the cost at \$3,000/month (pro-rated per-week) with a total not-to-exceed of \$8,000 regardless how long it would be required. With this agreement, we have issued the P.O. and their technicians will be in first thing next week to look at attempting to get our old unit workable for the short term.
- I have been corresponding this week with representatives of Cricket wireless, who hold one of the three, current leases we have with cell-providers for antenna installations on our Oakland Street water tower. The Cricket Lease actually expires effective December 31st, and they are seeking a new, extension to the Agreement. Unfortunately, however, it looks as though they will be exiting this market within the next year or so and are seeking a month-to-month lease as a result. I have, in turn offered a six-month extension, with options for additional six-month periods. With the first extension carrying a 10% rate increase over the previous rate (to now be \$2,178.00/month) and any exercises of additional 6-month extensions then requiring rate increases of 1 ½%. I expect this to be an item for approval on the upcoming December 9th, Board Meeting Agenda.
- Also, with regard to cell Towers and antennas, we have now formally received an application for a new cell-tower on the vacant, industrially-zoned parcel south of Main Street, between College and the old Railroad Right-of-way. The applicant has submitted the \$5,000 fee (consisting of our just-enacted fee of \$4,500 for cell tower and \$500 for Special Use permit request) which has prompted us to have our independent consultant begin their evaluation of the submittal. This issue will probably appear on the Meeting Agenda in January or February, depending on the research and reporting required.
- Also this week, we prepared the next draw-down requisition for CDBG Funds under our Waterline infrastructure Grant which, this time, totals approximately \$385,000.00 . Our previous draw was for \$117,000, so, upon receipt

of these funds, we will still have the ability to draw down the remaining \$248,000.00 of the Total \$750,000 in CDBG Grant Funds awarded.

- Finally, Allow me to wish everyone a safe, peaceful and Happy Thanksgiving. Please enjoy the comforts of family and friends as you celebrate the Holiday and reflect upon all the things that have made you thankful.

Thank You All.

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