

Mayor Year End Report - 2023

Public Works

Fire Department

- **Fire Department building-** Building has commenced and was to be completed by January 22, 2023
 - *We used FOB Grant and PBC funds and money saved for this project to build the fire department building. So, there was no additional taxes needed for this project.*
- 16th year our Fire Department has served hotdogs on Halloween
- Sharing Tree Project – gifts for families and children.
- Purchased digital radios to match the county radios

La Cygne Water Company

- **Water Plant** analysis of current capacity – completed. We have a full set of recommendations with breakdown of choices. The council will decide how to proceed.
- **Water purchase agreement with LVL** – Completed. The City of Linn Valley is working on water lines and other infrastructure once they are ready we will begin providing water.
- **Water treatment plant settling ponds** –complete
- Repeated disconnections and reconnections continue to be an issue also theft of services (owner or renter turning on the water themselves after disconnection)
- Carbon Feeder-purchased
- Two pumps have been rebuilt and one new purchased and installed, one is rebuilt and is a backup
- larger piping placed
- Chain link fence around settling ponds
- Lead and Copper inventory campaign is ongoing
- GIS mapping software and GPS unit purchased to use along with new utility locator

Sewer Company

- **Sewer rehab project** – Complete
- **Sewer Lagoons** desludging is scheduled
- **Lift stations** improvements planned for spring 2024

Gas Company

- **Emergency gas supply and cost situation** – *Follow up:* We continue to monitor the gas prices on a monthly basis – and KMGGA has changed their practice of how much to lock in at the start of each month.

Streets

- **KDOT CCLIP** – complete
- **Street project** is in the planning stages

Stormwater

- Master plan is complete. The council will review in a workshop and plan next steps.

Oak Lawn Cemetery

- Cemetery chapter in the Codes of the City of La Cygne was replaced with updated policy in 2021
- Information Board – Suggested and spearheaded by Councilmen Brenneman and Curtis – we purchased an information board and placed it at cemetery this was an effort to help patrons locate graves.
- QU Code program - It was suggested by councilman Brenneman to purchase a program to help locate graves. But since the budget for the cemetery had been reached and the total cost of \$15,000 and \$750 per year this has been moved back
- Connie Gore – Treasurer, entered the cemetery data into our Gworks module purchased last year.

Parks

- *Vandalism* – This year the park was repeatedly vandalized. We have our officers patrolling more often some areas had to be locked up and cameras.
- New sign for the main park is complete
- Bought a 17-foot Christmas tree for park along with other decorations – this year was a big year for the park and we received a lot of positive comments.
- Bittiker park – thanks to Tanner Snow for interest and help getting some needed improvements for this park

Police Department

- Chief Fenoughty was on leave for a portion of the year and Officer Jo Le Sturgeon stepped up in a big way as Interim Chief – Thank you to Jo for her efforts and dedication!
- Codes Enforcement
 - We hired Devon Canada as Codes officer and he is hard at work learning the job. Thankfully our past Codes officer Allison Fox left a very good system and with forms and a process to follow
 - Two more mobile homes scheduled for removal the first quarter of the coming year – one in North and one in South Park.
- Condemnation and removal of house 627 N Broadway – immediate hazard
- New Vehicle purchased and outfitted, 2023 Durango

City Hall

- **Update existing fee schedule** – Moving towards fees that reflect the actual cost of city administrative time, publication cost and outside review by certified individuals
- **Safety Award** – La Cygne earned a Gold Award for Safety Practices from KMIT safety auditors 2023
- **City Budget Flyer/newsletter with infrastructure projects**
- **Ops Manuel for pool** - Jenn Vogt

- **Old Community Building** – Now used as the drop off for Meals on Wheels program as well as continued use for Governing Body meetings and municipal court. We will discuss making changes to further utilize the building to make the best use of tax payer monies.
 - Whiteboard to aid in discussions for our meeting room
 - Smart TV
 - Internet added
- **Court**
 - **New Judge**- John Purvis
- **Revised Job descriptions, Pay Schedules and review process** and set clear guidelines for staffing for our city. These are the positions recommended by the governing body:
 - City Clerk
 - City Treasurer/Court Clerk
 - Deputy City Clerk
 - Police Chief
 - Senior Police Officer
 - Rookie Officer
 - Codes Enforcement Officer
 - Public Works Superintendent
 - Public Works Operator 2
 - Public Works Operator 1
 - Public Works Laborer 2
 - Public Works Laborer 1
 - Compactor Operator
 - Cemetery Caretaker

Governing Body

- **City Property on 602 N 5th Street** – listed with realtor with deed restrictions to encourage best use of property for city growth
- **Council Meetings:** Going forward the meetings will be held at 7:00 pm the first and third Wednesday of the month. We modify our agenda to improve the efficiency of the meetings as we feel necessary.
- **Special meetings:** This year our Council and support staff attended quite a few special meetings and performed extra work for various committees. This requires a lot of extra time outside of council meetings. That really helps move business along but does require extra commitments and we appreciate that dedication from everyone involved.
- **Proclamations** – Honoring the Prairie View Students and athletes for hard work and dedication resulting in State Championship competitions
- **Outreach to Schools** – If I were Mayor – high school and 3rd grade lunch
- **Build our City Open house** – in April
- Mayor attended welcome honor flights home in June
- Mayor organized Weiner Races on Father's Day at the ball fields

Planning and Zoning Commission

- **Comprehensive plan** -Complete

- Working on the review of our policies in the Planning and Zoning book
- Lots of work with Special use Permits

LaHarper Heights Board

Public Building Commission

Other important information

- **Businesses** -In 2022 we had quite a few new businesses and this year most are still here and thriving
- **Flood plain mapping is complete and shared with the public**

Policy updates and changes

- *Article 18 Factory Built Home District (Revision 11-16-2022). – complete*
- *Article 22 DRAFT Off-Street Parking Regulations.- almost complete*
- *Article G. Discipline – Employee Policy and Procedures.-complete*
- *Chapter 6. Fire, Article 2. Fireworks.-complete*
- *Council Committee duties and employee supervision – complete*
- *Attendance and leave personnel policy guidelines – complete*
- *Admin policy 33 - complete*
- *Section 5-101c Mobile food vehicle to chapter V article 1-complete*
- *Amended Section 14-1-8 g Meters Chapter XIV Article 1-complete*
- *Flat rate meter repair – added to fee schedule*
- *Adopted the Comprehensive plan*
- *Amended three chapters in the Utility codes mainly pertaining to returned checks and deceased patrons.*
- *Amended Chapter VII Article 2 sect & Health Nuisances by adding Yard Waste*

Things we may see in 2024

- Develop and share “4 truths about our city”
- Reflective house numbers for each address in our city
- Town hall
- Video and/or Livestream for our council meetings
- Railroad Quiet Zone
- Alcohol regs in city reviewed and updated
- Landlord license and rental agreements

Activities in the city

- Dog days- April or may
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Spring Fling Pop up
- Prayer Breakfast
- City Wide Clean Up and Garage Sales
- Memorial Day events
- Dancefestopia in September
- Blast in the Park
- Veterans Day
- Ray of Hope Fish Fry-October

- Halloween activities
- Election in November
- Thanksgiving meal
- Customer Appreciation Day – City Hall
- Christmas on Broadway with Whoville Parade of lights