

## August 1, 2020 - Mayor Report

**Attended the Virtual Mayors Conference on July 30 and 31** – thank you to the council for approving that expense.

**Attended the KORA KOMA training on July 29** - thank you to the council for approving that training and for attending along with members of the Planning Commission, and park board. For those who do not know – KORA KOMA refers to the open meetings act and open records act that ensures the public is included in any public meeting where decisions are being made with public funds.

**Council meetings** - Attended two regular council meetings in July along with one Special meeting.

**Awarded \$22,000 grant funds.** We have good news! La Cygne was awarded a \$22,000 grant, Kansas Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Supplement program. Personnel is being trained on the process now and we will be getting information out on how to apply for qualifying groups.

**The 2021 Budget for La Cygne** finalizing.

**Codes Violations and Derelict building/homes** – Grass letters have been sent out and our Codes officer has talked to many residents in person. We are seeing improvement and our public works has also stepped in to do the job in those cases where the owner has not complied with ordinances. In these cases, the property owner will be billed for the cost of this.

**Improvements to our homes and businesses!** After the damaging hail storm in May many businesses and homes were heavily damaged. We saw roofs replaced all over town. Plus, we have seen some other nice improvements around town both in businesses and in homes. Thank you for caring and for investing in the appearance of our city. A couple I would like to mention in particular are: Truly Insurance – nice facelift! And our historic corner building owner Darrell Walker replaced windows and other tasks along with a beautiful paint job on the back side of that building – it looks wonderful! Houses are getting new siding and those improvements really make a difference not only to the property in question but to our city in general. Together and one step at a time we can go from Drab to Fab!

**New Business: The Spot:** word is that this business is similar to a “mini mart” with some produce and other grocery type items to purchase. They do have a Facebook page where you can follow and stay up on the most current news.

**Covid 19 information** – At present the current Linn County cases are at 30 this is still low for many counties but was a steep increase from when things were more closed down. Please wear masks when possible, wash hands and keep a 6 foot social distance. We want to resume our lives and our businesses but we also want to protect our citizens. Thank you for caring enough to take these extra steps for our most vulnerable.

**Meals to Kids and Seniors** – Thank you to our Library and to dedicated volunteers who have provided meals since the Covid crisis began. Retia Grant, Dian Dotts Reta Sanders and Linda Elder are at least some of the people who regularly volunteer there are others who are equally important that help and although I do not know their names I want to thank them too. To many they have been literal life saves. The city was awarded the grant referenced above and that will allow some funds to assist these people.

**School is starting soon!** Be aware things have been pretty quiet but kids and cars will be moving around more. Watch out for pedestrians and those on bikes. *Thanks Deb Wilson, Mayor of La Cygne*