

City of Independence

Administrative Report

January 4, 2019



City Manager's Office

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The secret of joy in work is contained in one word -- excellence. To know how to do something well is to enjoy it.

– Pearl S. Buck, writer

Mayor Cafilisch and Commission Members:

Upcoming Meetings:

January 10, 2019	5:30 p.m.	City Commission Meeting
January 15, 2019	5:30 p.m.	City & Planning Commissions (joint)
January 24, 2019	5:30 p.m.	City Commission Meeting
February 14, 2019	5:30 p.m.	City Commission Meeting
February 28, 2019	5:30 p.m.	City Commission Meeting

Administration

Human Resources Applications are being received at KansasWorks, 317 N. Penn and on the City’s website for the positions of Code Enforcement Officer, Police Officer I and Dispatcher I. More information about these positions may be found at this link: <http://www.independenceks.gov/jobs.aspx>

The Director of Finance position is also being advertised in various publications. More information regarding that position can be found at this link: <http://www.independenceks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1271/Brochure---Finance-Director>. Interested candidates should apply immediately by submitting a compelling cover letter, comprehensive resume, salary history and five professional references to LEAPS-Independence@lkm.org. Application review will begin January 14, 2018. EOE.

Memorial Hall

Activities (December 24, 2018 – January 4, 2019)

Wednesday	Generator Test
Thursday	City Commission Meeting, Clean Smoke Detectors
Friday	60’s Club
Monday	Mini Blood Drive
Wednesday	Generator Test, Building Inspection
Thursday	End of Year Report
Friday	First Friday, and 60’s Club

Police

Stats from December 28, 2018 through January 4, 2019

911 Calls	158	Facebook Followers	6,108
Total Reports	37	Total Calls to Dispatch	821
Car Crashes	1	Traffic Stops	15

Weekly Update Chief Harrison spoke at First Friday this week about the canine program and fund-raising efforts. Supervisors and command staff are busy with employee evaluations. Harrison had a web meeting with 911 Coordinating Council Friday. Also, IPD is excited to announce that after testing and a rigorous background investigation, Dispatcher/Clerk I Richard Sherley has been selected for Police Officer I and will head to Hutchinson Kansas for police academy starting soon. IPD is still promoting the Best Beard Contest with donation jars in area businesses; see Independence Kansas Police Department on Facebook for more details. IPD also has a "Gofundme" account; search "IPD Drug Dog" to donate. In addition, IPD has an account with the Community Foundation for Independence which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax-exempt donation. Those wishing to donate to the IPD Canine Fund can drop their donations off with Jason Rutledge at the Ed Jones office located at 301 N. Penn. Make your check payable to CFFI and put IPD K9 on the memo line. State Farm has also partnered with IPD's canine fund-raising effort. Kirk Wright's office is participating in the Quotes for Good Campaign, offering a \$10 donation for every quote they do for the next month.

Employee Spotlight Sergeant Jason Reddy and Officer Hilary Cook are in this week's spotlight. Jason has been with IPD 13 years, serving as patrol officer and shift supervisor. Hilary has been a full-time dispatcher, part-time dispatcher, and is currently a full-time patrol officer having served the City a total of eight years and also served as a part-time officer in Cherryvale for three years.

Case of the Week Officer Cook responded to a local business for a report of an attempted suspicious transaction. Cook found out that someone had attempted to make a fraudulent purchase that totaled over \$4,500. Sergeant Reddy found a vehicle that he believed the suspect used to leave the area. The vehicle evaded Reddy and he was unable to stop it. Officers then saturated the area and located a man on foot that fit the suspect's description.

Upon interviewing the suspect, Officer Reddy developed probable cause for an ID theft case. As the officers investigated, they found the same person may be involved in scams that spanned several states. Officers eventually recovered evidence confirming the suspect was involved in fraud and ID theft in our city and other states.

The effort to locate the suspect, thoroughly investigate the case, and recover evidence demonstrates the commitment that Reddy and Cook provide the citizens of Independence daily. They also demonstrated teamwork and excellence by working together and being passionate about fighting crime so that our local businesses do not suffer from this fraudster. Once again Cook and Reddy are recognized for modelling the Excellence Independence philosophy.

Public Works

Weekly recycling was held Wednesday January 2nd due to the holiday; there were five participants. Also, streets personnel are currently picking up leaves in area 10.

Safety and Code Enforcement

Safety Director & Code Enforcement – Week ending January 04, 2019

Healthcare Update This report focuses on 911 calls and transfers; not all calls are listed here. EMS staff responded to **2,845** in 2018.

Ambulance Activities for 2018

2445 Ambulance Responses for Medical

- **1,180** patients transported to the emergency room
 - **889** patients to Independence ER
 - **110** patients to CRMC ER
 - **102** patients to WCMC ER
 - **38** patients to Labette Health ER
 - **38** patients to JPH ER
 - **2** patients to Fredonia

- **538** transfers from the Independence Emergency Room
 - **174** patients to inpatient care at JPH
 - **148** patients to inpatient care at Labette Health
 - **55** patients to inpatient care at Freeman - Joplin
 - **54** patients to inpatient care at St. John's – Tulsa
 - **30** patients to inpatient care at CRMC
 - **14** patients to inpatient care at WCMC
 - **14** patients to Via Christi - Wichita
 - **8** patients to inpatient care at Wesley – Wichita
 - **7** patients to St. Francis – Tulsa
 - **5** patients to Children's – Kansas City
 - **4** patients to Mercy – Joplin
 - **3** patients to KU Medical Center – Kansas City
 - **3** patients to OSU – Tulsa
 - **2** patients to Hillcrest – Tulsa
 - **2** patients to Chanute
 - **2** patients to VA – Wichita
 - **1** patient to Chanute, Topeka, Andover & Pittsburg

Interlocal EMS Board Meeting will be Monday afternoon January 7th. Board continues to work on consolidation of the Labette, Cherryvale and Independence Medical Protocol for approval in April 2019 with the Ks. Board of EMS, cost savings through purchasing, interagency mutual aid and disaster planning and training schedule for 2019.

ADA Update

- 2018 ADA Bids were received on December 21st. City Staff and TranSystems are in the process of reviewing and will presenting a recommendation to the Commission soon. Once approved we anticipate work will begin this spring.
- Complaint Received – staff received an ADA complaint regarding the condition of the sidewalk, brush and trees along 9th street, from Main to Sycamore.

Safety An inspector from the Kansas Department of Labor visited with Dave Cowan and inspected City Facilities this week. These inspections are routinely done on a five-year basis, unless an accident occurs. The State checks municipal facilities to ensure we are providing safe working conditions for our employees, that safety policies are in place and being followed, and that our facilities meet safety guidelines.

The inspections took about nine hours to complete and all City facilities where employees work were examined. The City's continual efforts through our safety program to provide and ensure a safe work place was very evident to the inspector. Led by Dave Cowan, our department directors, supervisors and employees need to be congratulated for all the hard work they have put in and their support of the Safety Program. Yes, there were some deficiencies, but they were minor and not what the inspector typically sees when he visits a City. He encouraged us to keep up the good work.



Firefighters arrive on scene of a single story structure fire at a structure on December 29th.

I.T. Preparing for the 2019 year and will be meeting with administration on January 7th as we plan out the season to maintain our I.T. network. Projects for 2019 include:

- Wireless network bringing Airport and WWTP on to the network and providing them with a reliable internet service
- Implementation of our computer replacement program
- Continue assessments and security of our network and prevention of cyber attacks

Building and Code Enforcement

- The Code Enforcement position is open, and we are taking applications through Kansas Works and the City Web page. The City will begin the interview process soon, and we anticipate having this position filled by the end of January 2019. The code enforcement position is a realignment of a vacant position we had in Fire-EMS budget and is not an additional person being added to the budget.

- Code enforcement will be working very closely with the Strategic Plan’s Strategic Directives and Key Initiatives as we re-evaluate and prepare for 2019. Items on our list for 2019 include:
 - Assessment of vacant houses in the City and getting those plotted on GIS.
 - Condemnations – Using assessment and a committee (Strategic Planning) to set up a plan on how to address these buildings and the options for these houses.
 - Beautification efforts to clean-up neighborhoods and the community

Fire/EMS

The first week of 2019 has been relatively slow here at Independence Fire/EMS. This is a good thing because usually when we are called, someone is having a bad day. Our call volume for this week so far includes 24 Medical Calls and one Outside Trash Fire.

Just for Fun!



“Nope, no New Year’s resolutions for me this year—I’m still working on a backlog dating from 2016.”

Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

D. Craig Whitehead
City Manager