MEMO

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Mark Gaugh, City Manager

Date: April 4, 2016

Re: Manager's Report

Mural Project – The mural project agreement has been signed and work is scheduled to commence on May 10.

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) – The TAC met to select transportation priorities for the counties of Andrew, Buchanan, Clinton and DeKalb. Previous to the TAC meeting, Mo-Kan staff met with county commissioners to generate a list of transportation needs in their respective counties. The list from each county was discussed at the TAC meeting and then the members ranked all the transportation needs using a point system. Of the five transportation priorities receiving the most points, the number one priority was the interchange at I-35 and Hwy. 36 along Bob Griffin Road in DeKalb County/Cameron. The five priorities were submitted to MoDOT as the Mo-Kan region's top transportation needs to be considered for the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP).

There is no guarantee that a transportation priority submitted to MoDOT will receive funding. However, MoDOT closely examines the TAC's list and to the fund the projects when possible. Several factors that are taken into consideration include MoDOT's budget, the expense of the project, traffic volume, and how critical the project is. The STIP is expected to have a larger budget for the next few years, which increases the amount of funds available for projects.

Start Smart Initiative Grant – The St. Joseph area Community Action Partnership has a grant opportunity available for the Governor's Start Smart Initiative. The initiative is similar to a head-start or pre-school program. Staff will be meeting in the very near future with the CAP representative and Dr. Robinson from the school district.

Street Projects- We expect these projects to remain on schedule for a start date in May or June, and completing around October. So, the eight blocks of reconstruction will begin soon, as well as the pedestrian access over Hwy. 36 and adjoining sidewalks. These are being done by two different contractors.

Old School Committee – I met with the committee who manages the Old School last week. They would like some assistance with their parking area, since many entities use it and it is now has pretty severe problems. Bryan Jones, an estimator from Herzog has given us repair prices. We will relay that to the Old School Committee and see what the next step might be.

Drainage Channel Behind of Kemper Motors – Will provide update.

Citizen Questions –

What budget do the pool expenses come from? Answer: Park Fund 12-40 Budget.

Can the City spend trail money on streets, instead of the trail? Answer: No. The State grant for trail construction cannot be used for any other purpose than trail development. This is true of all grants that I can think of. They are specific in purpose.

Can the City help with the Old School Parking Lot? Answer: Currently, it would not be legal for the City to help with the parking lot. However, if the parking lot was designated as public parking, and an agreement was made, it may be possible for the City to help, should the Council elect to do that. I am working on another project that could end up helping with the parking lot, as well. I will know more at a later date. In addition, we can ask all user groups of the parking lot if they could help with some of the expenses. This is still a work in process.

Animal Shelter Status Update – Will make a brief presentation on current status of project.