**MEMO**

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Steve Rasmussen, City Manager

Date: April 1, 2019

Subject: Manager's Report

North Missouri Business Expo. Zac, Tim, Mike O'Donnell and I attended the NMBE meeting on Wednesday morning at North Central Missouri College in Trenton. Stephanie Williams and Doug Schmitz helped facilitate this. The emphasis was on how businesses (and we are one) can stay competitive in today's market. Breakout sessions included marketing, finance and insurance education. Key speakers included State Rep Jay Eggleston, Google representative Bryan Caplan and Missouri Department of Economic representative Mark Stombaugh. A full packet is available should anyone want to see it.

Planning and Zoning Special Meeting. The City held a special meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission at 11 AM on Friday, March 22 to discuss recent State Legislation concerning medical marijuana. The City can regulate zoning as concerns the dispensing of the product but cannot be over-burdensome in its regulations. P&Z discussed the issue and ask the City Attorney to bring back a draft ordinance to them when the State completes its work on the issue. We anticipate this being brought back to P&Z by the end of May.

Strategic Planning Meeting. We have been talking about a Strategic Planning Meeting sometime in about two months after the election. I have talked with Kirk Davis about possibly facilitating this. He would be available the last week in May or the first week in June. We are looking at about ¾'s of a day on either a Saturday morning or a late afternoon weekday. Nothing is firmed up on this but I would appreciate everyone's thoughts on this and we will see what we can work out.

2020 Census. The Mayor and Staff met with Ms. Susan Jackson from the US Census Bureau. The Federal Government is beginning to prepare for the 2020 Census now. Part of this is establishing local "Complete Count" committees. These are local volunteer groups designed to help insure that we get accurate counts of all our residents. This is important for various kinds of federal funding as well as congressional representation. The City will be asking for volunteers for this important committee in the near future. Once the committee is established, the Bureau will provide information and training on how we can assist in getting accurate census data.