CITY MANAGER REPORT

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: David Watson, City Manager
DATE: March 3, 2011
RE: City Manager Report

2010 CENSUS DATA
The City of Cameron posted a 2010 Census population of 9,933 with the attached breakdown. The issues involving NPDES compliance for storm water has been avoided. However, it will be in our best interest to include those requirements as we move forward with resolving our storm water issues.

BUGET QUESTIONS
From the last City Council meeting, we were asked to report on why the fund balance was lower in the Sewer, General and Bond Debt Service funds.

Sewer Fund: The sewer fund has been spending down for sometime as we cover costs and have not increased rates to cover increased expenses.

General: The difference in the fund balance is made up primarily of Griffin Road ($115,000) and the Mead Street, 4th to 5th Street ($176,000) improvements.

Bond Debt Service: We made a final payment of $245,000 on the 2002 Refinancing of the 1993 bond issue for water and sewer improvements that does not require a transfer into this fund for future expenses.

ARMED SERVICES EXCEPTIONS
As we all know, more of our local Missouri Guard unit members are being deployed overseas. These deployments can create concerns that staff has identified and believe they need to be addressed. In the past, Council has allowed us to grant exemptions or exceptions for vehicles of service personnel deployed overseas that have expired license plates. We now have an issue where a father of a serviceman is caring for his son's dog. The problem is the father already has two dogs of his own (this puts the father in violation of the 2 dog limit rule). We could make the father go through the application process and public hearing (4 to 8 weeks) and the expense ($75.00) to apply for a "Conditional Use Permit" or, we could be much more accommodating, supportive and friendlier if Council would allow staff to grant exemptions or exceptions to solve what we all hope is a temporary issue.

The exceptions would be valid for up to one (1) year and only for overseas duty time. The exceptions could include the following:

1) Vehicles owned by such personnel including parking or storage, and licensing. However, said vehicles may not be junk or inoperative vehicles and otherwise must be in running condition.

2) Number of dogs owned by such personnel. Such animals must be vaccinated and licensed and comply with all other animal regulations of the City of Cameron.

3) Personal property taxes on vehicles if due during deployment would be paid upon return from duty without penalty.

SOLID WASTE UPDATE

Region D will promote the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, scheduled for April 30, 2011. Working with local law enforcement agencies this event will allow residents to properly dispose of prescription and non-prescription drugs. Additional information will be sent when received.

DeKalb County will be hosting a tire collection on May 7th at the maintenance barn, located on Hwy 6 east of Maysville. The Village of Agency will be hosting a tire event on August 27th. Both of these events are open to everyone and there is no limit to the number of tires whether they are rimmed or without rims that can be recycled. Of course the event is not for businesses. The event is a cooperation agreement with DNR and the hosting county and village.

Also, we would like to hold a ShredFest at the Cameron Dog Pound in June. Possible date is June 4th. There has been no confirmation on the date at this time. The event would run from 8-10 am. The 2 hour event will allow residents to shred tax documents, credit card and bank statements and other important papers. The event will feature onsite shredding. With the ever growing identity theft, this allows residents the security of having their important papers shredded.

JIM CLINE COMPLAINT

We have completed some field research on all water sources that flow to the noted point on Mr. Cline's property. Staff held a meeting with Mark Young to review the issue and all comments were forwarded to the City Attorney for his work with Mr. Cline's Attorney. A resolution to the sediment issue could be ready for Monday night.

Future Agenda Items:

- Bill: (Second Reading) Professional Services Agreement with GBA (architects/engineers) for New Electric Yard – ***Gaugh*** This bill allows the City to engage an engineer/architect to design the site layout for a proposed combined electric service yard.
- Bill: Adopting Floodplain Management Regulations – ***Han***
  Staff has been working with State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) to adopt Floodplain Management regulations including our first Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). The SEMA office has informed us that we need to adopt the regulation and if not adopted by April 4, 2011, the City will be under suspension until they do. Staff just received the regulations from SEMA and too late for the March 7th agenda. Therefore, we will deliver the regulations on March 7th so that you have an opportunity to read. Because of the importance of this regulation and adopting a FIRM, staff is recommending all three readings so as to receive public comment. The separate reading will push us past SEMA deadline and suspend us from the program for approximately 30-days.
- Resolution: Accepting Bid for Work Release Mowers – ***Bontrager***

Within the 2010-2011 budget is the purchase of two mowers for the work release crew. These mowers have reached their life expectancy and need to be replaced.

- Bill: Amending Snow Removal Ordinance - ***Bontrager***
  Staff is working on some changes to better provide snow removal services.
- Bill: Accepting bid for Grave Services – ***O'Connor***
  It has been over two years since we bid the service and the renewal came in with a greater than 15% increase.
- Bill: Declare elections results (second meeting in April) – ***O'Connor***
  It is required of Council to certify elections.
- Bill: Band Contract 2011 – ***O'Connor***
  This bill will approve the annual contract for the Free Summer Band series with the Municipal band.
- Bill: Certifying delinquent taxes as of April 1 – ***O'Connor***
  Council will be asked to certify delinquent taxes owed to the City of Cameron.
- Resolution: Accepting $75,000 Homeland security grant – ***Sloan/O'Donnell***
  We are waiting on the state to release funds.
- Bill: Adding new Dangerous and Dilapidated Structures Ord. – ***Han, Watson, Hendee***
  Companion Bill: Transfer of Mack Porter money from the CDBG Fund to a new D and D Program. Since the City will soon have Mack Porter funds for demolition, staff has been asked to explore programs that would acquire property (donated or at low cost) that need demolition. Once acquired and demo is complete, the City would sell to developers for new infill residential construction.
- Bill: Accepting bid for Tree Inventory (TRIM Grant) – ***Bontrager***
  The City recently received a grant to conduct a tree inventory from the State of Missouri. The grant requires that a certified Arborist conduct the tree identification and inspection.
- Bill: Amending Sign Regulations – ***Hendee***
  During some recent code interpretations, staff found some errors in the numbering system that created a missing section. Staff also believes we need an overhaul of this section that may include a more comprehensive matrix for user friendliness. With the recent letter from ACLU, staff will conduct a more thorough review and will be using services recently added by MPR to help communities in Planning and Zoning issues.
- Bill: Conditional Use Regulations – ***Hendee***
  P and Z is reviewing the conditional use regulations to possibly include certain land uses that have been granted conditional use permits by a loose interpretation of the code. Staff is reworking the proposal to place the listed conditional uses within the respective Zoning Districts
- Bill: Allowing Row Crops in Commercial Districts - ***Hendee***
  Within the City are several properties zoned commercial that are being used as row crop production. Row crops are not specifically allowed in this district but allowed in the lesser residential districts. Additionally, staff is working with Soil Conservation to create a usable document that controls sediment runoff within Cameron.
- Bill: Automated Meter Reading System and Rate Adjustment – ***Gaugh***
  The system improvement would replace all water meters and all older model electric meters and then link them wirelessly to City Hall.
- Bill: Back to School Sales Tax Holiday - ***Watson***

City Council and staff has been asked to consider joining the state in helping our citizens with school age children. In the past, the City has not elected to participate in any state sales tax holidays. As you may know not all sales tax is forgiven only those items identified for school can be eligible for forgiveness. The loss of revenue to Cameron may in fact be minimal and provide goodwill in the Community. This item will need to be acted on by May in order to be in place with the Department of Revenue.

- Resolution: Accepting bid for Public Safety Building generator (Jan)– ***Sloan/O'Donnell***
  Within the 2010-2011 budget is a capital request for a permanent generator to support the Public Safety building during loss of power situations.