

# EL DORADO

## KANSAS

TO: City Commission  
FROM: David Dillner, City Manager  
SUBJ: Weekly Report  
DATE: December 15, 2023

### Items of Note:

- Ashlyn is preparing draft lease agreements for Butler Community College's use of McDonald Stadium and the North Field at East Park. I have already met with Dr. Krull to discuss the proposed terms for these agreements, so I anticipate that these agreements will be ready for each party's consideration in late January or early February.
- The Excess Sales Tax Committee will begin meeting in late January. Staff generated a robust list of eighteen projects for the committee to consider for its recommendation to the City Commission. This year, the committee will recommend allocations for the 2023 and 2024 excess sales tax proceeds. We anticipate having about \$1.0 million to allocate to projects. The governing body will discuss its priorities for projects at the January 10 work session so guidance may be provided to the committee.
- The City Commission will meet with the Experience El Dorado Committee at the January 31 work session. The joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee will be held during its meeting scheduled for February 21. Finally, the joint meeting with the Planning Commission will be held at either the Planning Commission's March 28 or April 25 meeting. The selection will largely depend on the governing body's willingness to meet the day after a work session or to defer to the April date. We will discuss this at the next meeting.
- The City Commission will also need to consider which advisory committees each member wishes to serve as an *ex officio* liaison. Currently, governing body members serve as liaisons as follows:
  - Bill – EFABC and El Dorado Inc.
  - Kendra – Parks and Recreation, Main Street and EFABC
  - Leon - Experience El Dorado
  - Kelly – Library and El Dorado Inc.
  - Scrib – Unassigned
- The EFABC plans to replace the turf and track at BG Stadium beginning this summer. The turf will likely be replaced this summer, and the track will be replaced next summer. The total anticipated cost of both projects is about \$1.1 million, which will be funded largely through private contributions from sponsors and donors. I have started to discuss possible financing options with bond counsel since most of the contributions will come in over ten years. There are a few options for financing the project, and the City Commission will have to decide if it will be the conduit to finance the projects.
- The Kansas Department of Emergency Management (KDEM) is in the process of updating the regional Hazard Mitigation Plans. Butler County Emergency Management is

responsible for emergency management throughout the county, although the City has been asked to provide input into the projects and general hazards included in the updated Hazard Mitigation Plan. Projects identified in the plan are often eligible for federal funding following a disaster. Projects not listed in the plan are not eligible for Hazard Mitigation funds when they become available.

- El Dorado Inc. plans to provide its annual report to the City Commission at the January 15 meeting. Inc. will also provide a quarterly report to inform the governing body of its activities. Staff is in the process of coordinating an annual report (and subsequent quarterly reports) from Main Street. We are also scheduling an annual report from the Chamber of Commerce and will see if the Chamber wants to provide a quarterly update to the City Commission. Main Street and Inc. have been asked to provide quarterly updates since the City provides them with funding.
- El Dorado Inc. is coordinating a meeting on January 11 with the Workforce Alliance and Butler County leaders to identify and discuss opportunities to support job growth and business expansion.
- Excess Sales Tax Projects will be “live” for voting tomorrow. Citizens will be able to access our Balancing Act tool and provide input on which of the projects they prefer for funding. This input will be provided to the committee to assist them in preparing its recommendation. The City has about \$1.04 million available for allocation and approximately \$2.4 million in requests. Voting will close in a couple of weeks.
- The City will begin providing accounting services, including accounts receivable/payable, to the EFABC since long-term treasurer Norm Wilks will not continue his role as the USD 490 representative.
- The sculpture at El Dorado is moving slower than anticipated. We anticipate delivery in January, so we will move forward with foam letters and schedule the ribbon-cutting ceremony when the sculpture arrives and the weather cooperates.
- Construction on the concession/restroom facilities remains on schedule for February completion. The roof work is moving forward, and inside insulation has been installed. The walls are mostly framed, and the plumbing is installed.
- The installation of throwing boards at McDonald Stadium is near completion. These boards allow pitchers to throw their “heavy” ball for training and warm up at a structure designed to take the impact instead of the new fence or the building.
- The holes for the new scoreboard poles at McDonald Stadium have been drilled. These holes are ten feet deep to support the height of the scoreboard. Early next week, Public Works will pour concrete into the bottom of these holes that must be cured before the beams and remaining concrete are set. We are still on target for the installation to be completed before the start of the BCC baseball season.
- This week, the City recognized many employees at the annual Christmas luncheon.
  - **Summit Award** – Josh Potter, Amanda Stalnaker, and Erik Tharp (Engineering)
  - **Out of the Box Award** – Kayla Gatz and Ryan Smith (Police)
  - **Working Well Award** – Howard Goldsmith (IT), Ken Huffman (IT), Debbie Smith (Police) and Ken Temaat (Police)
  - **In the Black Award** – Marie Rowell (Finance)

- **Community Impact Award** – Travis Pierce and John Thompson (Police)
- **Excellence Award** – Fabricio Lacerda (Parks and Recreation)
- The City also recognized several employees for years of service:
  - **10 Years:** Britt Simmons (Public Works) and Caleb Fistler (Fire)
  - **15 Years:** Mike Rose (Fire), Quentin Sage (Fire), Justin Guy (Public Works), John Stewart (Police), and Debbie Smith (Police)
  - **25 Years:** Tony Yaghjain (Fire)
  - **30 Years:** Gene Ehlrich (Public Works)

**City Manager’s Priorities:**

1. Strategic Planning
2. To be determined

**Upcoming Milestones/Deadlines:**

- **November** – Preliminary Engineering Central Avenue Water Main Project
- **December** – Completion of East Park Concession/Restroom Facility
- **December** – Constant Creek Sewer Interceptor Project Bid Opening
- **January 2024** – Completion of Central Park Concession/Restroom Facility
- **February 2024** – McDonald Stadium Scoreboard Installation

**Personnel Update:**

- *Vacant, advertised positions:* Public Works Maintenance Worker (2), Police Officer (3), Public Utilities Maintenance Worker
- *Vacant, unadvertised positions:* Management Analyst (This position will be advertised again in 1Q 2024.)
- Brandon Taylor started in his role as Building Inspector on December 11.
- Haley Remsberg graduated from the Certified Public Managers Program last week. She completed 300 hours of classwork and a capstone project to reach graduation. She will be implementing her project next year through the Supervisor Bootcamp.

**Commission Calendar:** *Upcoming City Commission Items (subject to change):*

- **December 18 Regular Meeting** – SUP for Transitional Housing at 424 W. Central Avenue
- **January 2 Regular Meeting** – Vice-Mayor Appointment; Advisory Committee Liaison Appointments
- **January 10 Work Session** – Strategic Priorities; Excess Sales Tax Priorities
- **January 16 Regular Meeting** – El Dorado Inc. Annual Report, KB Farms Re-plat, RZ of 1358 & 1360 SW Hwy 77 (from Ag Residential to Residential Suburban); Advisory Committee Appointments
- **January 31 Work Session** – Experience El Dorado Joint Meeting