THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WED., JAN. 20, 2016

This regular meeting of Kent City Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Wed., January 20, 2016, by Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor & President of Council.

PRESENT: MR. AMRHEIN, MR. DeLEONE, MR. FERRARA, MR. KUHAR, MS. LONG, MS. SHAFFER, MR. SIDOTTI, MR. TURNER, AND MS. WALLACH

ALSO PRESENT: J. FIALA, MAYOR & PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL; D. RULLER, CITY MANAGER; J. SILVER, LAW DIRECTOR; AND L. JORDAN, CLERK OF COUNCIL

Mayor Fiala called upon Mr. DeLeone for his opening remarks.

Mr. DeLeone had no opening remarks, and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Mr. DeLeone, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, and carried by a voice vote of 8-0-1, with Ms. Wallach abstaining.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF JAN. 6, 2016.
Motion made by Mr. DeLeone, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, and carried by a voice vote of 8-0-1, with Ms. Wallach abstaining.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF DEC. 2, 2015.
Motion made by Mr. DeLeone, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, and carried by a voice vote of 8-0-1, with Ms. Wallach abstaining.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Fiala called for audience comment. He reminded those wishing to speak to sign up with the Clerk of Council who would call them forward. He also asked that they limit their comments to three minutes.

Robin Gladys, 1523 S. Lincoln: Ms. Gladys explained she had previously presented a petition for parking on S. Lincoln St, and understood they would be voting at this meeting. She said there was an agreement made allowing parking on the east side only. Ms. Gladys said this was a good compromise that she found agreeable. She said that while she would like parking on both sides, she understood the need for compromise.

Mayor Fiala explained that a lot had to do with the placement of the fire hydrants. Ms. Gladys said she is very pleased, acknowledging it is not easy to please everyone.

Hearing no further audience comment, Mayor Fiala called upon the Clerk for the written correspondence.

The Clerk reported the following:

1) Ten emails were received since the last Council meeting of Dec. 16, 2015 from people supporting UBER and speaking against the proposed legislation. These emails were sent directly to the Mayor & all Council by the senders.

2) Notification was received from the Ohio Div. of Liq. Control advising of a new application for a D1 license for 120 South Inc., dba Steak-Eez, 120 S. Water St., Kent, OH 44240. Objections must be postmarked February 8, 2016, and Chief Lee has no objections.

MOTION TO RETURN WITH NO OBJECTIONS.
Motion made by Mr. Amrhein, seconded by Mr. DeLeone, and carried by a voice vote of 9-0.

The Clerk reported that after the agenda was printed, minutes of the Dec. 10, 2015 Standing Rock Cemetery Board meeting were placed on file with the Clerk, prior to the start of this meeting, by Council’s representative, Mr. DeLeone.

Hearing no further written communications, Mayor Fiala called upon the City Manager for his report.

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS #1 THROUGH #14.
Motion made by Mr. Amrhein, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, and carried by a voice vote of 9-0.

The following items were approved by the aforementioned motion:

1) Authorization, public hearing to consider text amendments to Chapter 1147, University District
2) Authorization, public hearing, 315 Gouger Ave to be designated local historic property
3) Authorization of Draft No. 16-06, grant of hardware/software to KPD and KSU PD.
4) Authorization of Draft No. 16-05, Christenson Foundation, $1500 donation, Adopt-A-Spot
5) Authorization, Draft Nos. 16-07, 16-08, and 16-09, increases of 3% each for water, sewer, and solid waste with emergency clause
6) Authorization, Draft No. 16-10, Donation, American Legion, $2012
7) Agenda time, Community Development, citywide housing needs analysis
8) Agenda time, Finance Committee, future of stormwater management fund
9) Agenda time, Finance Committee, proposed IT Manager position
10) Agenda time, Community Development, proposed new Kent-Rootstown JEDD
11) Agenda time, Council’s pending list review
12) Agenda time, economic impact report w/KSU faculty
13) Agenda time, Update, status of new administration building project
14) Authorization to make available, for free, to the public any outdated/used furniture from relocation of city administrative update.

STANDING COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

MOTION TO APPROVE THE WRITTEN REPORT OF JANUARY 6, 2016.
Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, and carried by a voice vote of 8-0-1, with Ms. Wallach abstaining.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FIRST RECOMMENDED ACTION OF JANUARY 6, 2016, AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SEND A LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE REQUESTING THE LAW PASSED FOR TRANSPORTATION NETWORK PROVIDERS INCLUDE A REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR INCOME TAX COLLECTION.
Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, and carried by a voice vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE SECOND ACTION, RECEIVING A REPORT ON THE HOUSING NEEDS ANALYSIS WITH NO REQUIRED ACTION.
Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, and carried by a voice vote of 9-0.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to read Draft No. 15-169, by title only, which stands on first reading passed Dec. 16, 2015. The Mayor noted that the Law Director had told them previously this would be superseded by State law.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TAXICAB REGULATIONS CHAPTER 749 OF THE KENT CITY ORDINANCES TO INCLUDE REGULATIONS OF TRANSPORTATION NETWORK PROVIDERS (TNP’s), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE TWO READINGS.
Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Ms. Shaffer.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, and Mr. Amrhein. Ms. Wallach dissented. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 8-1.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.
Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. Ferrara.

Mr. Ferrara said he would be voting against the draft, as it will be ineffective since it will be superseded by state law.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting nay: Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, and Mr. Amrhein. The motion failed by a roll call vote of 0-9.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Mayor asked the Clerk to read Draft No. 16-05 by title only at this time.

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION TO THE CITY OF KENT ADOPT-A-SPOT FROM THE CHRISTENSON FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,500.00 FOR THE CITY’S BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS.
Motion made by Mr. DeLeone, seconded by Mr. Ferrara.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, and Mr. DeLeone. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.
Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. Ferrara.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, and Mr. DeLeone. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

2016-01: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION TO THE CITY OF KENT ADOPT-A-SPOT FROM THE CHRISTENSON FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,500.00 FOR THE CITY’S BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
The Mayor asked the Clerk to read Draft No. 16-06 by title only at this time.

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO ACCEPT A GRANT OF A FORENSIC EXTRACTION HARDWARE/SOFTWARE PROGRAM WITH EMPLOYEE TRAINING, FOR A TOTAL VALUE OF APPROXIMATELY $11,850 FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM, TO BE CO-OWNED AND SHARED WITH THE KENT STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS.
Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. Ferrara.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, and Mr. Ferrara. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.
Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. DeLeone.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, and Mr. Ferrara. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

2016-02: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO ACCEPT A GRANT OF A FORENSIC EXTRACTION HARDWARE/SOFTWARE PROGRAM WITH EMPLOYEE TRAINING, FOR A TOTAL VALUE OF APPROXIMATELY $11,850 FROM THE LAW ENFORCEMENT STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM, TO BE CO-OWNED AND SHARED WITH THE KENT STATE UNIVERSITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. Sidoti.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, and Mr. Kuhar. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Ms. Shaffer.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, and Mr. Kuhar. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

2016-03: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 913.05 OF THE KENT CODIFIED ORDINANCES, INCREASING THE WATER RATES OF THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO BY THREE PERCENT (3%) FOR 2016, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. Sidoti.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, and Ms. Long. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. DeLeone.
Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, and Ms. Long. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

2016-04: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 915.72 OF THE KENT CODIFIED ORDINANCES, INCREASING THE SEWER RATES OF THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO BY THREE PERCENT (3%) FOR 2016, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Linda M. Jordan, Clerk of Council

Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor & President of Council

The Mayor asked the Clerk to read Draft No. 16-09 by title only at this time.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 935.13 OF THE KENT CODIFIED ORDINANCES SO AS TO CHANGE THE RATES FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION IN THE CITY OF KENT, INCREASING BY THREE PERCENT (3%) FOR 2016, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, and Ms. Shaffer. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.

Motion made by Mr. DeLeone, seconded by Ms. Shaffer.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, and Ms. Shaffer. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

2016-05: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 935.13 OF THE KENT CODIFIED ORDINANCES SO AS TO CHANGE THE RATES FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION IN THE CITY OF KENT, INCREASING BY THREE PERCENT (3%) FOR 2016, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Linda M. Jordan, Clerk of Council

Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor & President of Council

The Mayor asked the Clerk to read Draft No. 16-10 by title only at this time.

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING DONATIONS TO THE CITY OF KENT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION PORTAGE POST #496 TOTALING $2012.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, and Mr. Sidoti. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.

Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. DeLeone.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, and Mr. Sidoti. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

2016-06: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING DONATIONS TO THE CITY OF KENT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION PORTAGE POST #496 TOTALING $2012.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Linda M. Jordan, Clerk of Council

Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor & President of Council

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

MOTION TO APPROVE THE WRITTEN REPORT OF JAN. 6, 2016.

Motion made by Mr. Amrhein, seconded by Mr. DeLeone, and carried by a voice vote of 8-0-1, with Ms. Wallach abstaining.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED ACTIONS OF JAN. 6, 2016.

Motion made by Mr. Amrhein, seconded by Mr. Ferrara, and carried by a voice vote of 9-0.

The following actions were approved by the aforementioned motion:

1) AUTHORIZE AMENDMENTS TO CITY CODE ON CIVIL INFRACTIONS AS PRESENTED, WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE INCLUDED
2) TO AUTHORIZE PARKING ON THE EAST SIDE OF S. LINCOLN STREET, BETWEEN RELLIM AND IVAN, WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE INCLUDED

3) RECEIVED REPORT ON CHEMICAL WEED CONTROL ALONG CITY RIGHT OF WAYS; NO ACTION NEEDED

The Mayor asked the Clerk to read Draft No. 16-01 by title only at this time.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 501.13 OF THE KENT CODIFIED ORDINANCES, ENTITLED “CIVIL OFFENSES”, TO CORRECT AND CLARIFY SOME LANGUAGE REGARDING FINES AND PROCEDURES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. Sidoti.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, and Mr. Turner. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.
Motion made by Ms. Shaffer, seconded by Mr. DeLeone.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, and Mr. Turner. Mr. Kuhar abstained. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 8-0-1.

2016-07: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 501.13 OF THE KENT CODIFIED ORDINANCES, ENTITLED “CIVIL OFFENSES”, TO CORRECT AND CLARIFY SOME LANGUAGE REGARDING FINES AND PROCEDURES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Linda M. Jordan, Clerk of Council

Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor & President of Council

The Mayor asked the Clerk to read Draft No. 16-02 by title only at this time.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 353.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF KENT ENTITLED “PARKING REGULATION AUTHORIZATION”, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. Kuhar.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, and Ms. Wallach. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. DeLeone.

Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Amrhein, Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, and Ms. Wallach. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

2016-08: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 353.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF KENT ENTITLED “PARKING REGULATION AUTHORIZATION”, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Linda M. Jordan, Clerk of Council

Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor & President of Council

STREETS, SIDEWALKS & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

MOTION TO APPROVE THE WRITTEN REPORT OF JAN. 6, 2016.
Motion made by Mr. Sidoti, seconded by Mr. DeLeone, and carried by a voice vote of 8-0-1, with Ms. Wallach abstaining.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE RECOMMENDED ACTIONS OF JAN. 6, 2016.
Motion made by Mr. Sidoti, seconded by Mr. DeLeone, and carried by a voice vote of 9-0.

The following actions were approved by the aforementioned motion:
1) TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF THE UTILITIES EXTENSION ON PRIMROSE LANE. WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE.
2) TO AUTHORIZE THE AGREEMENT WITH CITY 2 CITY, INC., TO USE THE CITY’S RIGHT OF WAY TO INSTALL BEACONS ON THE LIGHT POLES, WITH THE EMERGENCY CLAUSE.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to read Draft No. 16-03 by title only at this time.

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING, FOR DEDICATION PURPOSES, AN EXTENSION OF THE UTILITIES ON PRIMROSE LANE IN THE LINCOLN COMMONS SUBDIVISION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS.
Motion made by Mr. DeLeone, seconded by Mr. Kuhar.
Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, and Mr. Amrhein. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.
Motion made by Ms. Shaffer, seconded by Mr. DeLeone.
Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. DeLeone, Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, and Mr. Amrhein. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

2016-09: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING, FOR DEDICATION PURPOSES, AN EXTENSION OF THE UTILITIES ON PRIMROSE LANE IN THE LINCOLN COMMONS SUBDIVISION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

2016-10: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO ENTER INTO A "NETWORK IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT" WITH CITY 2 CITY, INC., FOR THE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF UP TO ONE HUNDRED (100) BEACONS ON CITY OWNED LIGHT POLES IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. DeLeone.
Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, and Mr. DeLeone. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE DRAFT ORDINANCE.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Mr. Sidoti.
Roll call was taken on the motion. Voting aye: Mr. Ferrara, Mr. Kuhar, Ms. Long, Ms. Shaffer, Mr. Sidoti, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wallach, Mr. Amrhein, and Mr. DeLeone. The motion carried by a roll call vote of 9-0.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS
None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
None

NEW BUSINESS
MOTION TO REFER TO THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION THE THOUGHT OF A BAN ON PLASTIC BAGS.
Motion made by Mr. Ferrara, seconded by Ms. Shaffer.
Mr. Ferrara said he had been approached by a citizen, and after talking to the Administration, he decided to ask the Sustainability Commission to discuss the issue and make a recommendation.
Ms. Shaffer said it is a good idea. She said other progressive cities have already banned them. Ms. Shaffer said it was a good choice.
Mr. Kuhar noted that plastic bags are recyclable.
The motion carried by a voice vote of 9-0.
Mr. Kuhar said he has received numerous calls on the police shooting, and asked if they would be getting any information soon. Mr. Silver said it is in the hands of the County Prosecutor, who will issue something. Mr. Kuhar said that is what he is telling people, adding they think the City is hiding something.
Ms. Wallach asked how many years they agreed to increase the rates for the utilities, and Mr. Coffee said 2016 is the first year they will raise them 3%. Ms. Wallach asked if they would be reviewing them, and Mr. Ruller said...
they will be looking at the solid waste rate in February. He said they need to discuss the water and sewer rates. He noted they had cut back the recommended rate previously, and may need to discuss this issue.

Ms. Long said on the back of their calendar is their pending list, and asked when they would be addressing it, as some of the items are very old. Mr. Ruller said it will be discussed in February. Mayor Fiala said it was in the City Manager's report that they approved earlier in the meeting.

Ms. Long said some items are four or eight years old. Mayor Fiala said they try to do it the first of each year, and missed it the previous year.

Ms. Shaffer said she was very pleased to see the sidewalk snow clearing machine out clearing the snow, although there was not much accumulation. She said it was effective and helped the snow melt quicker. Ms. Shaffer said it makes it safer for the pedestrians, adding she received positive comments from pedestrians. Ms. Shaffer said she wished to recognize Mr. Roberts for the work he did on this issue.

Ms. Shaffer also thanked the City for expediting the ability for Kent Social Service to serve as a warming center. She said this is important to the homeless residents in Kent. Mayor Fiala said it is ongoing this weekend also. Ms. Shaffer said she is very proud of Kent and Kent Social Services.

Mr. Sidoti agreed with Ms. Shaffer about the sidewalks. He said they had a soft winter through the month of December. Mr. Sidoti said when it became cold, he put up his sidewalk snow shoveling signs. He suggested people not wait until the ground freezes. He said he did not want to put it out too early as people would ignore it. He said he wanted to wait for the first snow. Mr. Kuhar said they will stay up in one foot of snow.

Mayor Fiala said that he saw the signs at Mr. DeLeone's house and Mr. Sidoti's house, adding his sign was up also. Ms. Shaffer said she had to wait until she shoveled her sidewalk. Mr. Sidoti said they have great intentions.

Mr. Turner asked if it has to drop to ten degrees for areas to open their warming stations, and Ms. Shaffer said that is correct, adding that is the threshold. Mayor Fiala said it is not the City's call, adding it is the call of Kent Social Services and the Center of Hope in Ravenna. Mr. Turner said these are Kent residents, for the time being. He said it is great what those agencies are doing, but they should be a little affected that there are people outside when it is ten or fifteen degrees. He said it is nice to say what they are doing, but what a person has to do before they open the shelters. He said there must be somewhere for them to go, and suggested in exchange, they could shovel snow for the seniors. Mr. Turner said this is not a sustainable plan. He said while he is pleased they are doing something with the sidewalks, they can still do better. Mr. Turner said they need to try.

Ms. Wallach asked if he was recommending the City have a warming center, and Mr. Turner said they need to evaluate the issue and need to try to make a bigger difference. He said that he applauds what is being done by the Center of Hope and other entities, but as a city, they need to see how they can expand their effectiveness. Mayor Fiala said they also need volunteers. He suggested Mr. Turner should stop in the facility on Water Street to find out what their policy is about the temperature. Mayor Fiala said it is out of their hands, as it is the policy of Family and Community Services.

Ms. Wallach asked Mr. Turner if he wanted the City to look into it, and Mr. Turner said it could be the form of a motion.

**MOTION TO HAVE THE CITY LOOK AT THEIR PARTNERS AND SEE WHAT THEY CAN DO BETTER WITH THE HOMELESS.**

Motion made by Mr. Turner, seconded by Ms. Wallach.

Mr. Sidoti concurred to the extent that ten degrees makes no sense. He said Mr. Turner asked if this was sustainable, and suggested the Sustainability Commission should look at this issue also. He said this would be about sustaining human lives. He said if they asked the Commission to look at it, it would broaden the number of people in the discussion. Mr. Sidoti said it was just his thought, but it seemed to him that sustaining life is as important as sustaining water and trees. Mr. Sidoti said they could come back and give them ideas on the types of support they, as a City, could provide.

Ms. Long suggested they also consult with the Health Department. She said they may have solutions, answers, or avenues they could pursue. Ms. Long said they are discussing the health of people who have no place to go when it is cold, and suggested they should be involved also.

Ms. Shaffer said her house mate from China read the article in the newspaper, and was impressed when it referred to government buildings. She said she was impressed they would permit such a thing in their culture. Ms. Long said the shelters do not stay open late, and it typically gets to be dangerous at night. Ms. Shaffer suggested there may be some way to consider some shelter that the City could provide and suggested they may partner with Kent Social Services. Ms. Shaffer noted that the Miller House was full.
Mr. Kuhar suggested they be careful, and suggested they may be over reaching their responsibilities as a City. He said there are a number of agencies set up for these types of issues. Mr. Kuhar said they should contact them, and give them their thoughts about the temperature and suggest more options for staying open. Mr. Kuhar said they are supported financially by the City. He said the agencies are more geared with dealing with the homeless, by providing shelter, food, and clothing. He suggested the City may offer advice, adding that Mark Frisone is open to things. He said Mr. Frisone has a better grip on what to do and what needs to be done. Mr. Kuhar said they need to keep the organizations tuned into what they do best.

Mr. Turner said the only reason he was using the government is because it is the organizing mechanism that can set priorities. He said his hope is they see what resources exist, and keep it on their radar. Mr. Turner said by doing so, they have a better chance of saving some lives. Mr. Turner said there are people who end up dying, adding it is not publicized. Mr. Turner said if they need to err on something, they need to err on this side and diminish the possibility of people losing their lives on Kent's streets.

The Clerk restated the motion at this time.

MOTION TO AMEND TO INCLUDE NOTIFICATION TO THE LOCAL AGENCIES ON THE CITY’S FEELINGS ON THE ISSUES.

Motion made by Mr. Kuhar, seconded by Mr. DeLeone, and carried by a voice vote of 9-0.

The main motion, as amended, carried by a voice vote of 9-0.

Mayor Fiala said they have an agency run by a board on Water Street and in Ravenna. He suggested they take warm clothing and spend the night there. Mayor Fiala said there are not enough people to man the facilities. He said the employees at Kent Social Services put in their hours all day long, and cannot be expected to stay all night long. Mayor Fiala suggested Council members could volunteer their time and spend the night with these people.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Fiala said at the last meeting, Ms. Long was concerned about whether the library posted their agenda. He said he went to the library and inquired. He said that while they do not have a bulletin board, the agendas are put in a special notebook and shared with the people. He said in their mind, it is being posted.

Mayor Fiala said he and the City Manager attended the quarterly meeting of the Mayors, City Managers, and Service Directors. He said they had good discussions on things from UBER to stormwater utilities. He said on Jan. 19, he and Mr. Ruller attended the Portage and Summit Counties Mayor and City Manager collaboration meeting. He said Congressman Tim Ryan spoke to them, and shared with them what is going on in Washington and what is needed on a local basis.

Ms. Wallach asked what was needed, and Mayor Fiala said the gas tax is their big concern. He said with more people relying on electric cars, it is not paying the bills for the highways.

Mr. Ruller said Congressman Ryan covered just about everything. He said they were told that since it was an election year, the leadership of both parties will not go overboard. He said they wanted to focus on the budget and renewable energy. Mr. Ruller said Mr. Ryan was happy to report they did pass the budget last year and a multi-year transportation bill. He said both were bipartisan efforts. Mr. Ruller said he also talked about environmental issues. He said Mr. Ryan told them that more people are employed in wind and solar than in oil and gas. He said Mr. Ryan talked about their region being primed to take advantage of that. He said Mr. Ryan explained what goes into making a wind turbine, and all parts are made in their region. Mr. Ruller said Mr. Ryan was excited on the renewal of tax credits for wind energy.

Mr. Ruller said Congressman Ryan felt they probably will not touch health care. He said he mentioned defense spending and Homeland Security. Mr. Ruller said the congressman has sat on committees dealing with the issues, and actually voted with the Republicans on an immigration bill. He said he has no problem with immigration, but wants it properly vetted. He said Mr. Ryan wants Homeland Security and the FBI to also give their stamp of approval. He said the Congressman told them he has been in too many meetings where he has heard that terrorists are using immigration to get into the country.

Mr. Ruller said Congressman Ryan spent about one hour with their group. He said he is a big supporter of Kent, and said some nice things to them. He said he wants to have lunch with Mayor Fiala.

Mayor Fiala said he got a text from him earlier about lunch, and invited all members to join them when they set it up. He commented that the congressman is very down to earth.

Mr. Ruller said Congressman Ryan also talked about the cost of education, adding that is still being discussed as well as the debt load. He said he is interested in some of the innovation in the high school levels that lead to trades and skills. He said Mr. Ryan mentioned the German system, where the students are plugged into a track early on in high school, such as a plumber. He said Mr. Ryan mentioned that manufacturing can still be a great career, as there is still a need for a great range of skills. He said he ties that back to this region as an area with a lot of universities and community colleges. Mr. Ruller said Mr. Ryan talked about 3D printing. Mayor Fiala said Congressman Ryan wants a committee to study that and see what the deficiencies are in their area.
Mr. Kuhar noted they mentioned renewable energy, and asked how the City's project was coming. Mr. Ruller noted they saved a ton of money. Mr. Kuhar asked about the solar system on the service garage to be used for water, and Mr. Roberts said they agreed on an initial budget with the vendor, but when it came time, it was more than double the price. He said they did not have the money. Mr. Kuhar offered to get them a vendor, adding it would be nice to get this in before Mr. Roberts leaves.

Hearing no further business before this Council, Mayor Fiala adjourned this meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor & President of Council

Linda M. Jordan, Clerk of Council