



Public Hearing

The City Clerk has scheduled a public hearing on the proposed rezoning recommendation of the Planning Commission for the property at 200 West Williams Street.

Committee of the Whole

The City Clerk has scheduled Committee time for Council to interview candidates for vacancies on City Boards and Commissions.

Community Development Committee

1. 200 West Williams Rezoning Request

Bridget has requested Committee time to present the recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve a rezoning request to change a 3.191 acre parcel on West Williams from Industrial to Commercial-Downtown. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Council is being asked to consider the rezoning request as a matter of zoning logic and compatibility with adjacent uses. The Planning Commission voted unanimously (5-0) in favor of the rezoning request. Consider the recommendation and direct staff accordingly.

Council Action

Consider the rezoning recommendation of the Planning Commission for the parcel on West Williams and direct staff accordingly.

2. 50th Anniversary of the Burning River, "Torch Fest" Street Closure

John Idone and Harrison have requested Committee time to request Council's authorization to consider a request to authorize the closure of Main Street Bridge on June 20, 2019 as part of Kent's role in the regional Burning River Celebration for the Kent Torch Fest. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Council has authorized City funds to be used as part of a community engagement project celebrating the Burning River and I recommend Council's approval of the temporary street closure for the Kent Torch Fest.

Council Action

Authorize the proposed street closure on the Main Street Bridge for the Torch Fest as presented.



Community Development Committee (continued)



3. Revised Street Closure Request for Wizardly World 2019

Chief Lee and Harrison have requested Committee time to present a request from Main Street Kent to extend the portions of the event street closure plan for the Wizardly World. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The Wizardly World (formerly Potterfest) event continues to be a very popular draw to downtown Kent that has produced record sales for a number of downtown businesses and staff recommends Council's support for the proposed street closure.

Council Action

Authorize the proposed street closure in support of the 2019 Wizardly World event.

4. New Street Closure Request for KSU "Forever Flashes" Alumni Event

Chief Lee and Harrison have requested Committee time to present a request from Kent State alumni association to host a new event, "Forever Flashes" in downtown Kent on N. Water Street on May 8, 2019. The event organizers are requesting portions of N. Water Street to be closed. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The increased use of N. Water Street for special events has proven to be manageable for traffic and it appears to have helped increase the interest in revitalizing N. Water Street, so I recommend Council's support for this new event street closure.

Council Action

Authorize the proposed street closure in support of the new KSU Forever Flashes alumni event.



5. Haymaker Farmer's Market Sub-Lease Renewal

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council to consider the renewal of the City's sublease with the Farmer's Market for the property that the City leases from the railroad along Franklin Avenue for the 2019 season. The sublease has been provided for \$1 per year and Bridget is recommending renewing that sublease again for 2019. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The City has historically provided the Farmer's Market with a lease to host the weekly Farmer's Market on the land along Franklin Avenue at a nominal fee and I recommend Council's support to renew that sublease.

Council Action

Authorize the renewal of the sublease for the Farmer's Market.



6. 2019 Celebrate Kent Grant Awards

Tom Wilke has evaluated the applications that we received for the 2019 Celebrate Kent Grant Awards and he has requested Committee time to share the funding allocations for Council's information. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Staff provides this report for information purposes and no Council action is required.

Council Action

No action is needed.



Community Development Committee (continued)

7. E. Main Street Neighborhood Study Project "Purpose and Needs"



Jim Bowling has requested Council time to present the "purpose and needs" statement that was developed by the E. Main Street neighborhood study group. Jim is requesting Council's acceptance and approval of the purpose and needs statement in order for the project to continue to move forward. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

This project is an excellent example of collaborative based neighborhood planning and I recommend Council's support for the "purpose and need" statement to continue the project.

Council Action

Accept and approve the E. Main Street "purpose and needs" statement as presented.

Finance Committee

1. Parks and Rec Canoe Livery Operations Lease Contract



John Idone has requested Committee time to present Council with his recommendation to renew the canoe livery operation contract and lease at John Brown Park with Kent State University, Crooked River Adventures. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

KSU management of the livery operations has been exemplary and I recommend Council's support for the lease renewal (with a waiver of the competitive bidding requirement) as presented.

Council Action

Re-authorize the Parks and Recreation canoe and livery operations at John Brown Park with KSU as presented.

2. Parks and Rec Fitness Center Lease Renewal



John Idone has requested Committee time to present Council with his recommendation to renew the lease for the Parks and Recreation fitness facility located at 1205 West Main Street. The lease is for 1 year with two additional 1 year renewals for a period up to 3 years. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Parks and Recreation funds the fitness Center lease out of their designated revenues and I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Re-authorize the Parks and Recreation fitness Center lease as presented.

3. Administrative Time for City Employee Voting



Hope has requested Committee time to provide Council with follow-up information on the request to grant City employees administrative time for voting on election day. Hope will share the findings of her research and offer Council recommendations on how to best structure a policy to grant administrative time for City employee voting while on duty. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's receive the report and direct staff accordingly.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.



Finance Committee (continued)

4. 2019 Budget Appropriations Amendment

Dave Coffee has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2019 budget line items and he has prepared the necessary appropriations amendments to reflect the changes needed to balance those line items. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization of the appropriations amendments.

Council Actions

Approve the 2019 budget appropriations amendments as presented.

Land Use Committee

1. NEFCO Sewer Service Area 208 Plan Update

Melanie and Jim have requested Committee time for Council's consideration of proposed updates to the NEFCO 208 Management Plan that designates the respective water and sewer service areas in northeast Ohio. The update is for Portage County and the City's sewer service area designation contained in the plan. (attachments)



Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's support for the proposed update to the 208 Plan as presented.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed updates to the NEFCO 208 sewer district plans as presented.

Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of February 2019. Overall the City income tax collections are up 3.3% (\$73,071) from February 2018. Kent State University's collections thru the end of February are down 1.74% (\$14,788). (attachment)