

May 31, 2017



New Police Building Tour

Remember that we have scheduled a tour of new Police Building at 6 pm before our Committee meeting. I hope you can join us.

Public Hearing

The City Clerk has scheduled a public hearing for consideration of modifications to Kent City Code, Section 1161.20, related to swimming pool fencing at 7:25 pm.

Community Development Committee

1. Modifications to Kent City Code, Section 1161.20, Pool Fencing

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time to present a recommendation to modify Kent City Code, Section 1161.20, related to spacing requirements for fence structures around swimming pools. The Code currently suggests spacing in fence slats that is no more than 3 inches apart but Bridget is recommending moving to a more conventional standard of no more than 4 inches apart. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The proposed change aligns our Code with our peer cities and should make pool fencing more affordable for Kent residents and still ensure public safety so I recommend Council's support.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed changes in Section 1161.20 as presented.



Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

2. Proposed City Code Updates for Small Cell Wireless Antennas

Jim Silver, Melanie Baker and Gary Bishop have requested Committee time to review the changes that need to be made to City Code in order to conform to the recent passage of new legislation in Ohio (Senate Bill 221) concerning the installation of small cell wireless antennas. The days of a few large (120' to 150' cell towers) are changing to meet the next generation of technology which prefers a dense network of lower towers which should provide greater streaming speeds, reliability and lower electric demand. The next generation technology has good attributes for the consumer, but the downside is, it requires a dense network of poles which based on the new laws the City has few, if any ways to regulate, even in our right of way or on our own poles. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

We need to update our Code to comply with the new State law and I recommend Council authorize the proposed Code revisions as presented.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and authorize the proposed Code changes as presented.





Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee (continued)

3. Haymaker Farmer's Market 25th Anniversary Street Closure Request

The staff have requested Committee time for Council to consider a new street closure request from the Haymaker's Farmer's Market to close a portion of Franklin Street on August 18, 2017 from 5 pm to 10 pm to host a Farmer's Market 25-year anniversary party celebration. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The Farmer's Market is a valued part of the Kent community and as one of the longest running farmer's markets in Ohio, I recommend Council support for the street closure request.

Council Action

Authorize the new street closure event as presented.

Health & Safety Committee

4. City of Kent – Kent State University Public Health Agreement

Jeff Neistadt is requesting Committee time for Council's consideration of a new agreement between the City of Kent's Health Department and Kent State University College of Public Health for the creation of an academic public health program. The academic public health Agreement is commitment to pool resources and partner in public health research and the delivery of public health services where practical and feasible. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The ability to share resources, leverage research, and contain costs in public health services leads me to recommend Council's support for the new Agreement.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and authorize the proposed Agreement as presented.

5. Proposed Queen of Hearts Event in Kent

John Idone has requested Committee time for Council to consider a request from Kent Parks and Recreation to serve alcohol in Fred Fuller Park as part of a planned Queen of Hearts fundraising event proposed for July 23, 2017. Alcohol has never been permitted in Kent Parks but Mr. Idone would like Council's authorization to provide a trial run with the Queen of Hearts event which will raise funds for Kent Parks and Recreation. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and direct the staff accordingly.

Finance Committee

6. Downtown Parking Meter Financial Report

Bridget and Dave Coffee have requested Committee time to present an update on Kent's downtown parking meters. Staff will share figures for parking meter usage, revenues and program costs. Staff will provide recommendations on how to reinvest any surplus revenues in downtown related projects. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff report. No action is necessary.

Council Action

Receive the staff report.





Finance Committee

7. Semi-Annual EDA Revolving Loan Fund Certification

The City is required to submit a semi-annual report of the activities performed with the revolving loan fund that were capitalized with EDA funds. City Council is being asked to pass a resolution certifying the current report. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The City's RLF Committee met on May 23rd and unanimously approved the RLF report for October 2016 – March 2017 and I would recommend Council's adoption.

Council Action

Approve and certify the EDA Revolving Loan Fund report for FY 2017.

8. Wells Sherman House Loan Options



I am requesting Committee time to present possible options for Council to consider in the restructuring of the Wells Sherman House loan. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and direct the staff accordingly.

9. Parks and Recreation Facility "Resolution of Necessity"



John Idone has requested Committee time for Council to authorize a "Resolution of Necessity" for a voted bond issue to construct a new Kent Parks and Recreation Facility. The Resolution of Necessity is submitted to Portage County for a millage calculation which in turn will be used by Dave Coffee and John Idone to prepare a more detailed economic pro forma for the project. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The information provided by the millage calculation is critical to understanding the affordability of constructing and operating a new Parks and Recreation facility. That information, combined with additional analysis, should allow the staff to present Council with a more complete project pro forma in July before Council makes a determination for whether to put the bond issue on the ballot or not. I recommend Council's support for the Resolution of Necessity.

Council Action

Authorized the submission of the Resolution of Necessity as presented.

10. 2017 Appropriations Amendments



Dave Coffee has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2017 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 2017 budget appropriations amendments.

Council Actions

Approve the proposed 2017 budget appropriations amendments as presented.

Information Items

1. Kent Police Statistics

Chief Lee has provided a copy of the police statistics report for April 2017. In 2017 calls for service are down 7% (690 calls); traffic citations are down 17% (226 tickets); accident incidents are down 31% (121 incidents) and serious crimes are up 18% (39 cases). (attachment)

Information Items (continued)

2. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of April 2017. Overall the City income tax collections are up 3.01% (\$145,915) from April 2016. Kent State University's collections thru the end of April are up 4.70% (\$78,579). (attachment)