



Public Hearings

The City Clerk has scheduled two public hearings (FY2015 Chip Grant, and Definitions of Board and Rooming Houses) prior to the start of our Committee session.

Boards and Commissions Interviews

The City Clerk has scheduled a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to interview candidates for vacancies on City Boards and Commissions.

Community Development Committee

1. Royal Cleaners, CRA #2 Application

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time to present a request from the owner of Royal Cleaners on (1172 West Main Street) to approve a Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) tax abatement in the amount of \$3,283 for a period of 7 years. Royal Cleaners is planning a \$300,000 (2,700 square foot) expansion and they have requested the property tax abatement through the City's CRA #2 application process. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Under the requirements of the City's CRA #2 Council must authorize the tax abatement. Bridget and I recommend Council's approval.

Council Action

Authorize the Royal Cleaner CRA #2 tax abatement request as presented.

2. 2015 Chip Grant

Bridget Susel and Dan Morganti have requested Committee time for Council to consider authorizing a new 2015 Community Housing Impact & Preservation (CHIP) grant application for funds that will be available to promote safe and decent housing for low to moderate income families later in 2015. The grant definitions are still being finalized but applications are due May 1, 2015 so Bridget has asked for Council's approval to submit a \$250,000 grant application in anticipation of the release of the final grant terms in April. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The City has received CHIP funds previously to support owner-occupied rehabilitation projects and Bridget believes the new CHIP grants will expand eligibility to include financial support for area non-profit agencies that manage low to moderate income properties. I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the submission of a CHIP grant funding request in 2015 as proposed.



Community Development Committee (continued)

3. CHIP Housing Advisory Committee



Bridget Susel and Dan Morganti have requested Committee time to ask Council to authorize the creation of a new Housing Advisory Council that is required to fulfill the obligations of the 2015 CHIP program funds. The grant application requires the establishment of a Housing Advisory Committee that would be responsible for the oversight of the use of the CHIP grant funds. Bridget has proposed a list of Committee slots for appointment by Council to the new CHIP Housing Advisory Committee. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

I recommend Council's support for the creation of the new CHIP Housing Advisory Committee as presented.

Council Action

Authorize the creation of the new CHIP Housing Advisory Committee.

4. Downtown Valet Program Modification



Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council to consider authorizing a modification to the downtown valet parking program that operates Thursday through Saturday night at the corner of Erie Street and Depeyster Street. Due to the high volumes of valet users during the peak hours (5:30 to 8:30), the valet operators and restaurants have asked for the City's approval to add an additional designated valet pick-up and drop-off area on Depeyster Street in front of the Landmark building during the peak hours only. Bridget notes that there is room to expand the valet on Depeyster Street as requested. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

We have observed traffic congestion around the valet operations during the peak hours and Bridget and I recommend Council's support to expand the valet service during the peak hours as requested.

Council Action

Authorize the staff to amend the valet policy and operations as presented.

Finance Committee

5. 2015 Appropriations Amendment



Dave Coffee has been working with the department heads to review the 2015 budget and he has identified items that need to be re-appropriated. (attachment)

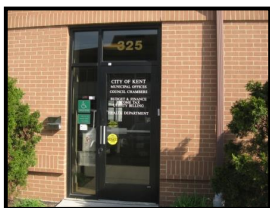
Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization of the 2015 appropriations amendment.

Council Actions

Approve the 2015 appropriations amendment as presented.

6. City Hall Relocation Options



Gene Roberts has requested Committee time to provide Council with an overview of the options for the relocation of City Administrative staff in preparation of the pending sale of the City buildings at the end of May 2015. Gene, Dave Coffee, Jim Silver, Jeff Neidstadt and I have been reviewing the options and we are prepared to present our findings to Council. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.



Finance Committee (continued)

7. City Salt Purchase Update

Gene Roberts has requested Committee time to update Council on the supply and cost of road salt in preparation for the 2015-16 winter season. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Receive the staff report.

Council Action

No action is necessary.

Land Use Committee

8. Zoning Code Rooming and Boarding Definition Modifications

Jen Barone has requested Committee time to present Council two modifications recommended by the Planning Commission to clarify the definition of a "guest" and a "resident" in Chapter 1103, Rooming and Boarding House, of the City's Zoning Code. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

I recommend Council's support for the proposed definition changes.

Council Action

Authorize the zoning code definition changes as proposed.

Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

9. Sewer Use Ordinance Amendment

Gene Roberts has requested Committee time to present Council with amendments to the City's Sewer Use Ordinance that are required to remain in compliance with State and Federal permit requirements for industrial pre-treatment and discharge limits. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council approve the sewer use ordinance amendments as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the proposed sewer use ordinance amendments.

Health and Safety Committee

10. Kent-Monroe Falls Jail MOU

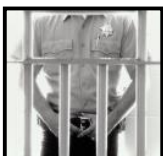
Chief Lee has requested Committee time to present a request from the City of Monroe Falls to enter into an agreement with the City of Kent for the use of Kent's jail facility as a back-up for those few incidents a year when the Cuyahoga Falls jail is full. Chief Lee reports that she supports this request and does not believe it will present operational problems for her staff. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council approve the MOU with Monroe Falls for the use of the Kent City jail as a back-up for the City of Monroe Falls as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the City of Kent – City of Monroe Falls MOU for a back-up jail facility.



Special Council Meeting

The City Clerk has scheduled a Special Council meeting for Council to consider actions required to proceed with the land acquisitions required for the Summit Street Transportation Improvement Project.

Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of February 2015. Overall the City income tax collections are up 12.01% (\$231,481) from February 2014. Kent State University's collections thru the end of January are up 4.72% (\$35,842). (attachment)

2. Income Tax Report

Chief Tosko has provided an annual report for the Fire Department in 2014. Overall the department had a total of 3,988 calls including mutual aid. The majority of these calls (78%) were for EMS. The department also completed 621 fire inspections in 2014. (attachment)