



Special Council Meeting

The City Clerk has scheduled a Special Council meeting at the start of our Committee meeting to authorize the 2016 Operating budget and accept the streets in the White Oaks subdivision into the public street inventory. (attachments)

Community Development Committee

1. EDA Revolving Loan Fund Semi-Annual Certification

Each year 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 latest report. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The City has effectively used EDA revolving loan funds to retain and attract new business investment in Kent. Council certification of the City's Loan Fund Plan is required by the Ohio EDA to maintain eligibility and I would urge Council's adoption.

Council Action

Approve and certify the EDA Revolving Loan Fund report for FY 2015.

2. RLF Committee Member Appointments

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council to consider 2 new appointments to the City's Revolving Loan Fund Committee. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's support for the 2 new member nominees.

Council Action

Authorize the appointment of the 2 new RLF Committee members.

3. Portage County Solid Waste District Recycling Update

Gene Roberts has requested Committee time for Council to receive an update from the staff at the Portage County Solid Waste Management District regarding their recycling service changes that are planned to begin in January 2016. The County is preparing to transition their recycling collection service to a single 90-gallon container that would replace the small, multiple recycling bins. The new service allows the County to reduce labor costs by making the switch from manual to automated curbside collection. Customers will get the convenience of a single recycling container for all of their recyclables. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Receive the County update. No action is required.

Council Action

No action required.



Community Development Committee (continued)

4. Transportation Network Providers Code Amendments



Jim Silver has requested Committee time to present his proposed modifications to the City's taxi regulations that would impose requirements on transportation network providers operating in Kent like Uber. Jim shared his draft with the Uber representative and where appropriate he tried to take the Uber rep's comments into consideration. Jim notes that among other considerations, the Uber rep has concerns with Jim's requirement for driver registration and income tax remittance. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The State of Ohio continues to make progress on statewide transportation network regulations that would create a uniform regulatory approach but until then I recommend that Council adopt the draft City regulations.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed Transportation Network Providers code amendments.

5. Staff Inventory of Historic (pre-1915) Homes in Kent



Earlier this year Suzanne Stemnock completed an inventory of "historic" homes (for the purposes of her research defined as homes in Kent built prior to 1915) to better define the housing stock in Kent. I've asked Suzanne to present the results of the inventory for Council's information. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

No action is necessary but I would ask Council to receive the report and consider the information as we move forward with housing strategies that should include identifying opportunities to promote historic preservation and restoration.

Council Actions

Receive the report, no action is necessary.

Health & Safety Committee

6. Franklin Township Fire Services Agreement with Kent



Chief Tosko, Dave Coffee and I have been meeting with the representatives from the Franklin Township to review the City's fire services contract with the Township. The Township Trustees have requested the City's consideration to amend the calculation of the Fire Services contract "run-charge" from being based on budget figures to actual fire and EMS costs during the year. The 2015 fire service rate is \$1,227 per run. The actual costs for the last 4 years have come in on average 5% below the budget -- which would equal approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000 less per year in payments from the Franklin Township. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The staff and I recommend Council's consideration of the proposed modification to the Franklin Township fire services contract if the Township in turn is willing to commit to an annual contribution for fire service vehicle replacement (estimated at approximately \$100,000/year).

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.

Health & Safety Committee (continued)



7. MOU for Regional 911 Contract for Technology Services with AT&T

Jim Silver, Chief Lee and I have requested Committee time for Council to consider a proposed Memorandum of Understanding that would establish a county-wide contract with AT&T to host the 911 technology platform for the various City, KSU, sheriff, and township 911 dispatch operations in Portage County. The technology used by the City for 911 dispatch operations is nearing the end of its service life and the equipment manufacturer has announced that they will no longer be able to provide parts or service the old 911 system. Many of the cities (including Kent State University) are facing the same technology problem and a county-wide effort is underway to partner with AT&T to use their 911 technology platform. A shared 911 technology platform would provide valuable redundancy among the county's 911 providers and reduce the potential costs required for each city to purchase their own new equipment. The contract with AT&T would be managed through Portage County and the costs to pay AT&T would be provided by the State cell phone fee revenues. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

As a partner to the new AT&T contract the City would be able to replace the current outdated technology platform and pay AT&T for the new technology by committing Kent's share of the State cell phone fee revenues (\$80,000/year). The State is pushing for consolidation of 911 dispatch services and moving to a shared platform would position Portage County to be able to respond to any future State consolidation requirements seamlessly. I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the staff to enter into the MOU establishing a county-wide contract with AT&T for a hosted 911 technology platform and pay for that service using Kent's share of the State cell phone fees.

Land Use Committee



8. Review of FEMA Process and City Flood Designation Requirements

I am requesting Committee time for Council to have an opportunity to receive more information on the FEMA flood designation process and the City's requirements to update the City flood map elevations. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff report.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report.

9. ROW Dedication at 1321 & 1335 West Main Street (Stoddards)



Jen Barone and Bridget Susel have requested Committee time for Council to approve the right of way dedication proposed for 1321 and 1335 West Main Street. Jen reports that the property at 1321 and 1335 is being subdivided into 2 parcels and as part of the replat, the portion of the respective property that extends into the street is being requested to be accepted as dedicated right of way. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's support.

Council Actions

Authorize the dedication of the West Main Street right of way at 1321 and 1335 as presented.

Already Approved
7/15/15



Finance Committee

10. Fire Department AFG Grant Request

Upon further review it was determined that this item was already approved by Council (\$39,000 grant for fire life-saving equipment) on July 15, 2015.

11. 2015 Budget Appropriations Amendment

Dave Coffee has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2015 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 appropriations amendments as presented.

Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of October 2015. Overall the City income tax collections are up 12.63% (\$1,356,710) from October 2014. Kent State University's collections thru the end of October are up 3.13% (\$122,339). (attachment)