



Health & Safety Committee

1. N. Water Street Business Owner Parking Petition

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time to update Council on the status of the petition received from business owners on N. Water Street to resume exclusive 2 hour parking restrictions on N. Water Street coinciding with the installation of the new parking meters. Parking on N. Water Street is currently a mix of 2-hour (non permit) and 8-hour (with permit) parking. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

This parking petition is scheduled for consideration by the Parking Action Committee on December 5th and I recommend Council wait to review the PAC recommendation before making any decision on the petition request.

Council Action

Receive the staff update.



2. Proposed Tattoo and Body Piercing Regulations

Jeff Neistadt has requested Committee time to present the request of the Health Department to update the City's tattoo and body piercing regulations to comply with updates to the state regulations and to ensure the health and safety of customers that seek these services in Kent. Jeff reports that he has had conversations with the Kent tattoo shops and they understand the need for the proposed regulation changes. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Jeff considers the adoption of the updated regulations as important public health and safety measures and I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the proposed updates to the City's tattoo and body piercing regulations.



Community Development Committee

3. Kent State University Request to Close Willow Street

Jim Bowling has requested Committee time for Council's consideration of a request from Kent State University to close Willow Street to thru traffic in conjunction with the construction of the new College of Architecture building and the increased usage of the Esplanade with its at-grade crossing at Willow Street. Jim Bowling has been evaluating the projected changing traffic patterns resulting from the new College of Architecture building, the new Institutional Advancement building, and the new Police Facility for the past 12 months and he is prepared to discuss the request to close Willow in terms of overall traffic flow and traffic safety. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The City has periodically approved requests from developers to close/vacate City streets when the impact was deemed minimal and the change had a reasonable basis. I recommend Council support the request to close Willow Street contingent upon the implementation of the traffic improvements that Jim Bowling recommends the University perform or pay for as outlined in the proposed MOU.

Council Actions

Consider the proposed closure of Willow Street and direct staff accordingly.



Community Development Committee (continued)

4. Modifications to City-ODOD 629 Grant Fund Agreement

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council's consideration of a modification requested by the Ohio Development of Development to the City's existing 629 Grant Agreement that was received for downtown redevelopment funding (\$300,000) in 2012. ODOD is asking all 629 grant recipients to amend the job creation terms used in the existing agreement. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

This modification has no impact on the City's grant commitment or compliance and I recommend Council's authorization to modify the grant agreement as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the 629 City-ODOD grant fund amendment as presented.

Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

5. E. Summit Street Temporary Construction Easement Payments

Jim Bowling has requested Committee time for Council's authorization for staff to proceed with securing the right of way easements required for the Summit Street improvement project as discussed with City Council at the October Committee meeting. Jim has negotiated 3 agreements out of 59 required for the project and he is seeking Council's approval to execute those 3 agreements and to proceed with securing the remaining 56 parcel agreements for Council's future approval in groups in the same manner as the Crain Avenue bridge project. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization of the 3 proposed temporary construction easement and the blanket authorization to negotiate the other agreements for final approval by Council in groups.

Council Actions

Approve the temporary construction easements as presented.

Finance Committee

6. Police Facility Debt Issue

Dave Coffee has requested Committee time to obtain Council's authorization to proceed with the recommendation of the City's debt committee to begin to issue bonds for the construction of the new City Police facility in accordance with the terms of the voter supported levy. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council accept the debt committee recommendation and authorize the City to begin the necessary debt issuance to support the timely and cost effective construction of the new Police Facility.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed \$4.9 million debt issuance for the Police Facility as presented.



Finance Committee (continued)

7. Central Maintenance Staffing Proposal

Gene Roberts has requested Committee time to present his request to Council to begin to implement an incremental change in staffing in Central Maintenance to allow a transition from Service Workers to be replaced over time (through attrition) with lower paid Laborer positions in order better match staffing needs with staffing allocations. Gene estimates that this change in staffing will improve the department's ability to keep pace with infrastructure needs without increasing costs – and may likely result in net savings overall. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Gene has worked with the AFSCME membership, Central Maintenance Supervisors and the HR Manager to develop this “backfill” strategy for vacant Service Worker positions with Laborers and I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the implementation of the “backfill” position replacement strategy and approve the necessary changes to the position allocation ordinance.

8. Proposed 2015 City Operating Budget

Dave Coffee and I will present City Council with the proposed 2015 recommended operating budget for Council's consideration. You should have received your budget package last Friday, October 24th so there is no attachment to this Communication.

Administrative Recommendation

I would recommend Council's approval of the budget so that we can ensure continuity of City operations in January when our 2014 budget expires.

Council Action

Review, modify and approve the proposed budget for 2015.

Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of September 2014. Overall the City income tax collections are up 2.39% (\$224,082) from September 2013. Kent State University's collections thru the end of September are up 3.76% (\$126,742). (attachment)

2. Main Street Quarterly Report

Heather Malarcik has shared copies of the quarterly Main Street Kent report for July, August, and September 2014. If you read through the reports you'll see their marketing activity and advertising, listings of the community events sponsored by Main Street, and financials during the third quarter of 2014. (attachment)

3. Executive Summary of CAPER

Dan Morganti has provided a summary of the City's recently submitted Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the PY2013 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This report contains information on CDBG expenditures and accomplishments during the PY2013 program period. (attachment)



Information Items (continued)

4. Sustainability Commission Update

Suzanne Stemnock has provided the article recently written by the Sustainability Commission recommending methods to fend off global warming at Council's request.

The Commission has decided to write a series of articles, each related to a different approach to help reduce global warming. The first article written by the Commission was aimed at reducing global warming by measures taken at home. (attachment)

5. Fire Incident Report

Chief Tosko has provided a copy of the fire and emergency medical services report for September 2014. In 2014 calls for fire service are down 7% (43 calls); fire mutual aid assistance is down 9 events in 2014; and EMS responses are down 4% (80 calls). (attachment)