



## Public Hearing

Amy has scheduled a public hearing on the proposed Downtown Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) designation for downtown Kent. (Tom Wilke)

## Community Development Committee

### 1. Amendment to Farm Animal Regulations in Residential Areas

Hope has requested Committee time to present her recommendations to expand the regulations that govern housing farm animals in residential areas by adding potential criminal citations to go along with injunctive actions. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

This item came up because of complaints over donkeys being maintained in a residential area where enforcement had proven unsuccessful. I recommend Council authorize the proposed amendment to the regulations.

#### *Council Actions*

**Authorize the proposed amendment to the City's regulations of farm animals in residential areas as presented.**

### 2. Consideration of the Downtown Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA)

Tom has requested Committee time to present Council with a proposal that has been developed by Main Street Kent in conjunction with downtown businesses requesting Council's authorization to submit an application to the State for downtown Kent to be designated as a Downtown Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA). This designation has been used successfully in Ohio cities prior to the pandemic and it has gained even more popularity as a means to attract customers back into business districts and help downtown businesses recover as part of reopening businesses. (attachment)

#### *Administrative Recommendation*

Receive the staff report and authorize submission of the DORA application.

#### *Council Action*

**Receive the staff report and authorize submission of the DORA application.**

## Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

### 1. Proposed New Process to Issue Temporary License Agreements

Jim has asked for Committee time to request Council's approval to grant the administration the temporary authority to enter into a License Agreement with a business/property owner for the use of the right-of-way for outdoor dining. This authority would be limited to entering into agreements that would be effective for 2020. Any owner that wishes to extend the agreement into 2021 would be required to obtain separate approval by City Council. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

Given the magnitude of economic and public health challenges presented by the pandemic, I urge Council's support for this proposed temporary authority.

#### *Council Actions*

**Grant the administration temporary licensing authority as presented.**





## Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee (continued)

### 2. New Street Closure Request for Haymaker Farmer's Market

Bridget has requested Committee time for Council's consideration to authorize a request from the Haymaker's Farmer's market to close off a portion of Franklin Avenue (south of W. College Street and ending before the parking area for The Pub) on Saturday mornings in conjunction with the downtown farmer's market (from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. beginning June 6<sup>th</sup> and ending on October 31<sup>st</sup>). (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

The proposed closure will ensure proper social distancing for patrons and vendors of the market and I strongly recommend Council's support.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize the proposed temporary street closure on a portion of Franklin Avenue to ensure public health and safety during the Haymaker's Farmer's market on Saturdays as presented.**

## Finance Committee

### 1. Conversion of City Anticipation/Short Term Notes

Rhonda has requested Committee time to discuss the recommendation of the City's debt team to convert the City's outstanding short term notes into private bank bonds.



#### *Administration Recommendation*

Market conditions are such that the City's financial experts recommend the City take advantage of the stability and low rates available through the conversion of our short term notes into bank bonds, and I recommend Council's authorization to proceed with the debt conversion recommendation as presented.

#### *Council Actions*

**Authorized the conversion of the City's short term debt into bank bonds as presented.**

### 2. Consideration to Place the Renewal of the West Side Fire Levy on the Fall Ballot

Rhonda has requested Committee time for Council's consideration to renew the 2015-20 West Side Fire Station Operating Expense tax levy. Rhonda is asking for Council's authorization to place the .73 mil levy on the tax ballot in November as a renewal. (attachment)



#### *Administrative Recommendation*

The West Side Fire levy provides approximately \$256,000 in revenues that are used to support the fire operations provided at the West Side fire station. If renewed, the homeowner payment on a \$100,000 property would actually decline from \$23 per year to \$21 per year. I recommend Council's support for placing the levy renewal on the November 2020 ballot.

#### *Council Actions*

**Authorize the placement of the West Side Fire Operating levy (.73 mil) on the November 2020 ballot as a renewal as presented.**

## Finance Committee (continued)

### 3. Proposed Amendment to the City's 5-Year Revolving Loan Fund



Bridget has requested Committee time to ask for Council authorization to amend the City's current Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Five Year Update. The EDA recently suspended some of the approved program requirements in order to create greater flexibility for businesses adversely impacted by Covid-19 that could benefit from RLF loan assistance. Bridget is requesting Council adopt the updated EDA temporary requirements to help Kent businesses. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

Given the magnitude of the public health and economic impacts resulting from the pandemic I strongly recommend Council's authorization of the loan modifications which have the potential to help Kent businesses.

#### *Council Actions*

**Authorize the proposed RLF fund update as presented.**

### 4. 2020 Budget Appropriations Amendment



Rhonda has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2020 budget line items and she 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 2020 budget appropriations amendments as presented.**

## Information Items

### 1. Income Tax Report

Rhonda Hall has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of April 2020. Overall the City income tax collections are down 1.07% (\$54,095) from April 2019. Kent State University's collections thru the end of April are up 6.09% (\$105,260). (attachment)

### 2. Kent Police Statistics

Chief Lee has provided a copy of the police statistics report for April 2020. In 2020 calls for service are down 28% (2,801 calls); traffic citations are down 30% (328 tickets); accident incidents are down 20% (50 incidents) and serious crimes are up 1% (2 cases). (attachment)

### 3. Fire Incident Reports

Chief Tosko has provided a copy of the fire and emergency medical services report for April 2020. In 2020 calls for fire service are up 4.5% (15 calls); fire mutual aid assistance is up 1 event as compared to 2019; and EMS responses are down 12% (142 calls). (attachment)

### 4. Monthly Permit and Zoning Reports

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the monthly zoning and permit violations report for April 2020. Permit revenues were \$3,999.01 for April with the most permits being issued for HVAC Residential (16 permits). There were 16 code enforcement items in April. (attachment)