



Franklin Township Joint Meeting

Please note that we will start our next Committee meeting with our annual joint meeting with the Franklin Township.

Community Development Committee

1. Dix Property Park Donation Deed Restrictions

Jim Silver and John Idone have asked for Committee time for Council to consider accepting the proposed parcel split and deed restrictions that the Dix family would like to have included as part of their property donation to the Kent Parks Department located. The terms of the restriction stipulate that the larger parcel of land will not be used for a playground and should remain a nature preserve with very limited parking that honors the natural habitat. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Jim and John have reviewed the restrictions and they recommend Council's support to amend the property transfer documents to include the revised terms.

Council Action

Authorize the acceptance of the property donation under the revised deed terms.



2. RFP for a Community Housing Analysis

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time to provide Council with an overview of the contents of the proposed RFP for a community wide housing analysis that her department is getting ready to issue. Bridget will review the study goals, scope, focus areas, and schedule. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Receive the information. Input is welcome but no action is necessary.

Council Action

Receive the information. No action is necessary.



3. Renew City Lease with ABC Railroad for Parking Lot

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council's approval to renew and extend the City's lease with ABC Railroad for the parking area used by the City for public parking and for the Haymaker Farmer's Market. The property is ABC Railroad right of way along Franklin Avenue. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Bridget has been able to negotiate a longer term for the lease at no additional cost and I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the renewal of the City's lease with ABC Railroad.



Health & Safety Committee

4. City School Request for School Resource Officer Position

Police Chief Michelle Lee has requested Committee time to discuss the Kent City School request to add an officer to the Kent Police Department that would be dedicated to work at Kent Roosevelt High School as a School Resource Officer. Michelle has participated in a series of discussions with representatives from Kent City Schools to work out the details of hiring an additional Police Officer to support the needs of the School system and she is prepared to recommend Council's authorization of an additional position to her department that would be funded through Kent City Schools. Michelle will provide an overview of the mechanics of this proposed new hire. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

With the Kent City Schools funding the position, I recommend Council's support and authorization to proceed with the proposal as presented.

Council Action

Authorize staff to proceed with hiring a School Resource Officer position as presented.

Streets, Safety & Sidewalks Committee

5. Trans-Ohio Request for License to Occupy

Jim Bowling has requested Committee time for Council to consider granting Trans-Ohio to install a cigarette disposal container on City Right of Way on Main Street in downtown Kent. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The cigarette containers have proven moderately effective at reducing cigarette butt litter in downtown Kent and I recommend Council's support for this license to occupy a portion of the City right of way for the installation of a new cigarette container.

Council Actions

Authorize the license to occupy for Trans-Ohio Properties.

6. City Policy for Drilling on City Owned Land

Gene Roberts has requested Committee time to obtain Council's direction regarding a policy on gas well drilling on City owned land. Previously Council asked the staff to explore the possibility of a joint statement between the City and Kent State University prohibiting drilling on City or University property. For legal reasons the University was unable to make that policy commitment but Council referred the matter back into Committee for discussion of a City policy.

Administrative Recommendation

The staff is not opposed to professional, well managed gas well drilling operations at the right City property locations but in light of the extensive debate over the environmental impacts from drilling, the staff also recognizes Council's desire to adopt a policy to prevent any new gas well until more data is available that concludes gas well drilling is being done professionally and is well managed.

Council Action

Discuss and direct staff accordingly.





Finance Committee

7. First Energy Check Donation

Gene Roberts has requested Council's authorization to accept an energy conservation "donation" from First Energy in the amount of \$54,957. First Energy is distributing these funds in recognition of the success of the City's energy conservation investments that have produced significant energy cost savings. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

I recommend that Council accept the energy conservation funds provided from First Energy.

Council Action

Authorize the acceptance of the energy conservation funds from First Energy.

8. 2009 General Operating Levy Renewal

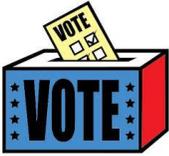
Dave Coffee has requested Committee time to present his recommendation for Council to authorize the placement of the City's 2009 General Operating Levy on the ballot for renewal at the November 2014 election. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The staff is asking to renew the General Operating Levy (1.16 mils) that is used to support City operating services. I recommend Council's support to place the levy renewal on the ballot in November 2014.

Council Action

Authorize the placement of the renewal of the 2009 General Operating Levy (1.16 mils) on the November 2014 ballot.



Information Items

1. Planning Commission Meeting

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the Planning Commission agenda and staff report for the May 6th Planning Commission meeting. There is 1 item up for consideration: 1) 218 E. College Ave., conditional zoning certificate, site plan review, and approval to convert single family residential into rooming house. (attachment)

2. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of March 2014. Overall the City income tax collections are up 5.33% (\$149,445) from March 2013. Kent State University's collections thru the end of March are up 3.69% (\$41,466). (attachment)

3. Monthly Permit and Zoning Reports

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the monthly zoning and permit violations report for March 2014. Permit revenues were \$5,781 for the month of March with the most permits being issued for residential HVAC and plumbing (16 permits). The Code Enforcement Officer position is currently vacant so issues are addressed on a complaint basis. There were no code enforcement items in March. (attachment)

4. Fire Incident Report

Chief Tosko has provided a copy of the fire and emergency medical services report for March 2014. In 2014 calls for fire service are down 6% (12 calls); fire mutual aid assistance was down 3 events in 2014; and EMS responses were down 10% (71 calls). (attachment)

Information Items (continued)

5. Downtown Valet Statistics

Bridget Susel has provided a summary of the valet usage in downtown for the first 3 months of 2014 on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Using Bridget's numbers the valet service has had over 1,000 customers in 3 months and is averaging 4 valet customers per hour. You'll note that the lunch time experiment with valet service never really caught on so the vendor is eliminating the lunch valet service. (attachment)

6. Kent Utilities Featured In Automation World Magazine

Gene Roberts has shared a copy of an article from Automation World magazine that included a great feature on the Kent Water and Water Reclamation Plants. All of our flashy downtown redevelopment got plenty of media attention but it's great to see Kent receive accolades for the technological sophistication of our good old fashioned hard working utility plants. (attachment)