



## Boards and Commissions

The City Clerk has scheduled a Work Session for Council to perform interviews of candidates for vacant positions on City Boards and Commissions.

## Finance Committee

### 1. 2014 Appropriations Amendments

Dave Coffee has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2014 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.**

### 2. 2014 Celebrate Kent Grant Awards

Bridget Susel has evaluated the applications that we received for the 2014 Celebrate Kent Grant Awards and she has prepared her funding recommendation for Council's approval. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

I would recommend Council's support for this year's funding proposals as presented.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize the 2014 Celebrate Kent funds as presented.**

## Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

### 3. E. Summit Street Temporary Construction Easements

Jim Bowling has requested Committee time for Council's consideration of a temporary construction easement with the State of Ohio for E. Summit Street Improvement project. The temporary easement is necessary to allow the contractor to access the adjacent property in order to construct sidewalks, ramps, lighting, etc. This will be a 4 year temporary easement at a price of \$1. (attachments)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

I recommend Council's authorization of the proposed temporary construction easement.

#### *Council Actions*

**Approve the temporary construction easement as presented.**



## Health & Safety Committee

### 4. Parking on W. Main Street Bridge



Jim Bowling has requested Committee time for Council's review of the 17 parking spaces on the Main Street Bridge. Council had previously authorized this parking at the request of businesses, particularly the West River Medical Doctor's offices and the owners of the former Bissler building. The County's bridge repair project will soon be completed and Jim needs to know whether Council wishes to keep or remove the parking on the bridge so that he can advise the County accordingly. (attachment)

#### *Administrative Recommendation*

The parking on the bridge continues to be routinely used for both business and recreational uses (river and park) but the City has also recently changed the parking restrictions on Gougler Avenue which has expanded the long term parking supply in the immediate vicinity of the bridge. There are no plans for parking meters on the bridge, those 17 spots would remain free of charge as planned. The staff feel that there is still some benefit for maintaining the parking on the bridge.

#### *Council Action*

**Review the parking on the Main Street bridge and advise staff accordingly.**

### 5. Towing Ordinance Storage Fee Change



Chief Lee and Jim Silver have requested Committee time for Council to consider correcting a section of the City towing ordinance that has discrepancies in the fee listing. In May 2014 Council authorized increasing the storage fee to \$15 a day. It was later determined that the State caps storage fees at \$12 a day, so staff is requesting Council's authorization to reduce to the City's fee to the maximum fee allowed by the State at \$12 a day. (attachment)

#### *Administrative Recommendation*

I recommend Council's authorization to amend the storage fees to \$12 a day.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize the proposed amendment to the storage fee contained in the towing ordinance.**

## Community Development Committee

### 6. Kent-Franklin JEDD Appointment



Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council to consider making a replacement appointment to the JEDD Board to fill a vacancy. The former "employee representative" on the JEDD Board from Schneller has left his position and the JEDD Board has unanimously voted to forward a recommendation to City Council to make a replacement appointment of another Schneller employee, Mr. Alex Seil. (attachments)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

I recommend Council affirm the proposed replacement appointment to the JEDD Board.

#### *Council Actions*

**Authorize the proposed replacement appointment to the JEDD Board.**

## Community Development Committee (continued)

### 7. Proposed New Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Designation

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council's consideration of a request to create a new Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) that would allow a Kent business to take advantage of some of the potential tax benefits of a CRA and invest those tax savings in a plant expansion at their property in Kent. An adjoining business has also mentioned a desire to expand and this designation could provide some financial incentive for that transaction to occur as well. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

I recommend Council's authorization of the proposed new CRA as presented.

#### *Council Actions*

**Authorize the proposed new CRA as presented.**

### 8. Revolving Loan Fund Board Appointment

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council to consider making a replacement appointments to the Revolving Loan Fund Board Committee. Bridget notes that there has been turnover in Committee positions over the last couple of years and replacement members have filled those vacancies on an interim bases but those individuals were not formally appointed to the Committee so Bridget is asking Council to officially appoint the interim Committee members. In addition, Bridget has requested a minor modification related to membership eligibility that she believes will broaden the potential local applicant pool. (attachments)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

I recommend Council affirm the proposed replacement appointments to the City's Revolving Loan Fund Committee.

#### *Council Actions*

**Authorize the proposed replacement appointments to the City's Revolving Loan Fund Committee.**

### 9. Parking Ordinance Changes

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council to consider modifications to the City's Parking Ordinance to reflect the return of parking meters in downtown Kent. Council has previously approved a comprehensive parking plan that included paid parking in the deck, permit parking in surface lots, on-street parking meters and free parking. Council has authorized the purchase of the meters and the are in the process of being installed. Before the meters can be activated Council must make the necessary amendments to the City's Parking Ordinance to reflect the return of parking meters on select downtown streets. (attachments)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

Parking meters are an important pieces of the overall downtown parking strategy that is particularly needed by the small shops that rely on frequent turnover of customer parking and I strongly recommend Council adopt the parking ordinance changes as present.

#### *Council Actions*

**Authorize the modifications to the City's Parking Ordinance to reflect the return of parking meters to downtown Kent.**



## Community Development Committee (continued)

### 10. New Police Facility Update

Chief Lee and Gene Roberts have requested Committee time to provide Council with an update on the status of the progress of the design of the new Police Facility. Jeff Meyers with Sommers and Associates will review the "pre-programming" space needs that were developed and address design issues such as access, egress, topography, building size, LEEDs and utilities. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

I recommend Council receive the update.

#### *Council Actions*

**No action needed at this time.**

### 11. New Student Housing Project Proposal

Bridget Susel and I have requested Committee time to provide Council with an update on the status of the purchase offer that the City received from a student housing developer for the two City buildings located at the corner of Depeyster and Summit Street. The developer will also be in attendance to answer any questions that Council may have regarding the type of student housing and the firm's interest in the City property. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

I recommend Council received the staff update, discuss the purchase offer and provide some direction for follow up.

#### *Council Actions*

**No action necessary at this time.**

### 12. Go-to-Go Taxi Lease Extension

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time to seek Council's authorization to extend the commercial property lease with Go-to-Go Taxi located in the City's incubator space on Summit Street. The 5 year lease with Go-to-Go expired and they are no longer eligible for subsidized rental rates. However, the City's policy allows a business to remain if they agree to pay a fair market rate. Bridget has determined the fair market rate at \$9.00 per square foot and she is recommending to extend the lease with Go-to-Go for up to one year. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

With no waiting list to get in the City's incubator, and other space available in the building, I recommend Council's authorization of the lease extension with Go-to-Go Taxi as presented.

#### *Council Actions*

**Authorize the lease extension as presented for a period up to one year.**

## Information Items

### 1. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of August 2014. Overall the City income tax collections are up 5.47% (\$446,819) from August 2013. Kent State University's collections thru the end of August are up 3.83% (\$116,682). (attachment)

### 2. Fire Incident Report

Chief Tosko has provided a copy of the fire and emergency medical services report for August 2014. In 2014 calls for fire service are down 6% (29 calls); fire mutual aid assistance is down 4 events in 2014; and EMS responses are down 5% (102 calls). (attachment)

