



Committee of the Whole

1. First Draft of Civic Engagement Coordinator Position (Dave, Suzanne)

Dave has asked for Committee time to present the first draft of the part time Civic Engagement Coordinator position for Council's comments and discussion. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Receive the staff update, and advise the staff accordingly.

Council Action

Receive the staff update, and advise the staff accordingly.

2. KSU Town & Gown Initiatives Update from KSU (Dana)

Dana Lawless Andrick from KSU has asked for a few minutes to provide an update on the status of KSU town and gown initiatives for Council's information.

Administration Recommendation

Receive the informational update.

Council Actions

Receive the informational update, no action is required.

3. Update on the City Hall Construction Project (Melanie)

Melanie has asked for Committee time to share an update on the status of the construction of the new City Administration building.

Administrative Recommendation

Receive the staff update, no action is necessary.

Council Action

Receive the staff update.

4. Proposed Changes in Lateral Transfers for Civil Service (Suzanne, John)

The staff have asked for Committee time to request Council's approval on a change in the Civil Service testing rules that would some flexibility for lateral transfers without requiring a full Civil Service re-test. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The Civil Service Commission voted in favor of the proposed lateral testing rule change. The change is anticipated to help recruit more qualified candidates for City Civil Service vacancies that may be reluctant to re-test and I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the proposed Civil Service lateral transfer rule change as presented, with the emergency clause.



Community Development Committee

1. Proposed Development Agreement & New TRES Liquor License (Bridget)

Bridget has asked for time to present a request from "Board & Bevy" to obtain a TRES liquor license for their proposed new business at the corner of Summit Street and Depeyster Street. The staff have prepared a Development Agreement with Board & Bevy that includes the terms of a TRES liquor license for Council's consideration. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Bridget reports that the TRES liquor license conditions have been met at this property and she recommends Council approve the TRES license request and Development Agreement. I recommend Council's approval as presented.

Council Actions

Authorize the Development Agreement and TRES liquor license for Board & Bevy as presented, with the emergency clause.

Health & Public Safety Committee

1. Proposed Renewal of the Health Dept. Lease with PARTA (Hope, Joan)

Hope and Joan have requested Committee time to present the updated contract for the City Health Department to extend the lease for space in the PARTA Central Gateway (2nd floor and ground floor) through 2028. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The Health Department considers the PARTA space an effective location for public access and the delivery of local health services, and although the pricing in the rent has increased, the staff and I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and authorize the proposed lease extension for the City Health Department in the PARTA Central Gateway as presented, with the emergency clause.

2. Renewal of the School Resource Officer Position (Nick)

Nick has requested Finance Committee time to present a request to renew the City-Kent Schools agreement for the use and funding of a School Resource Officer position in the 2022-23 academic year. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

This is a popular safety program and I urge Council's renewal of the agreement.

Council Actions

Authorize the renewal of the School Resource Officer as presented, with the emergency clause.

3. Review of the Ohio Fireworks Law Changes (Bill)

The staff have requested Committee time to review the changes in the Ohio Fireworks law and discuss the option for the City to "opt-out" of the new State Law which legalized the use of consumer grade fireworks by residents. The new State law has specific limitations for where and how consumer grade fireworks may be used but based on the observations over the July 4th weekend, the majority of people that set off fireworks failed to do so in compliance with the new law. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

As a result of noise and safety concerns expressed by residents, Council, and the staff, we are recommending Council choose to "opt-out" of the new State Fireworks law and resume the prohibitions on the use of fireworks in the City of Kent.

Council Actions

Authorize the City to "opt-out" of the Ohio fireworks law as presented, with the emergency clause.



Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

1. Fairchild Water Tank Repair Bidding Waiver Authorization (Jim, Hope)



Jim has requested Committee time to request Council's consideration to allow the award of the emergency repairs of the damaged Fairchild Water Tank without going through the normal competitive bidding process to complete those repairs. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Council has the legal authority to waive the competitive bidding requirement and the staff and I recommend Council's approval of bid waiver for the emergency repairs.

Council Actions

Authorize the emergency bid waiver as presented, with the emergency clause.

2. Proposed Street Closure for Community Ice Rink Project (Melanie)



Melanie has requested Committee time to present a request to close Erie Street, between Depeyster Street and Haymaker Parkway (from November through February) in order to set up the 2022-23 community ice rink. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

KSU and the City wish to bring back the community ice rink for a second year and we need to authorize the street closure for the duration of the ice rink season. I recommend your support for the street closure as a way to provide additional recreational opportunities to City residents and help attract people to downtown Kent businesses.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed City/KSU Erie Street closure for the community ice rink project as presented, with the emergency clause.

Finance Committee

1. CUE Cooperative Purchasing Agreement Authorization (Melanie)



Melanie has requested Committee time to request Council's approval for the City to enter into the "community, university, educational cooperative purchasing agreement" managed by the University of Akron. This agreement enables the participants to leverage volume purchases to optimize pricing and share purchasing of equipment, supplies, etc. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

As materials and supply pricing has continued to rise, I recommend Council's approval for the City to participate in the CUE purchasing agreement in order to enable staff to secure necessary products and services at the best price possible.

Council Action

Authorize the City's participation in the CUE Cooperative Purchasing Agreement as presented, with the emergency clause.

2. Acceptance of First Responder Retention Grant for Kent Police (Nick)

Nick has requested Committee time to present his recommendation to accept a State of Ohio first responder grant in the amount of \$376,771.20 to pay our sworn officers and dispatchers a 10% bonus. The State allocated \$70 million in ARPA funds for local government grants and Kent Police was successful in securing the grant funding for 2022-23. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization to accept and allocate the Ohio First Responder grant funds to the Kent Police Department as presented.

Council Action

Authorize the acceptance, allocation and distribution of the State of Ohio First Responder grant funds as presented, with the emergency clause.



Finance Committee (continued)

3. Body Armor Grant Acceptance and Allocation (Nick)

Nick has requested Committee time to ask Council to authorize acceptance and allocation of grant funds (through the Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Grant program) in the amount of \$801.43 to assist in the replacement of expiring body armor used by Kent Police. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Nick was successful in securing \$801.43 in grant funding that is eligible to be used to replace aging body armor and I urge Council's support.

Council Actions

Authorize the acceptance and allocation of \$801.43 in grant funding to be used for the purchase of replacement body armor as presented, with the emergency clause.

4. Certified Liens to the County for Outstanding Payments (Rhonda)

Rhonda has requested Finance Committee time to present the annual list of addresses for certification and submission to Portage County to be added to property tax records as tax liens against the property due to lack of payment. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The City annually submits a certified list of addresses that have failed to pay their City bills and have not agreed to an extended payment plan. I recommend Council certify the list and authorize the staff to forward it to the County as presented.

Council Actions

Certify and authorize the submission of the proposed property tax liens as presented, with the Emergency clause.

5. 2022 Budget Appropriations Amendment (Rhonda)

Rhonda has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2022 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 2022 budget appropriations amendments as presented, with the emergency clause.

Information Items

1. Main Street Kent Quarterly Report

Heather Malarcik has shared a copy of the Quarterly Main Street Kent report for 2nd Quarter of 2022. If you read through the reports you'll see budget information for the year, as well as a listing of the community events sponsored by Main Street Kent coming in 2022. (attachment)

2. Income Tax Report

Rhonda Hall has provided a summary of income tax collections for the June of 2022. Overall the City income tax collections YTD are up 12 % (\$901,535) compared with June of 2021. For the month of June the City income tax collections are down .18% (\$2,636) compared to June 2021. (attachment)

