

Life outside the lines.

Unauthorized Items

1. Authorization to Donate a Surplus Hard Drive to Standing Rock Cemetery for their Administrative Computer (Nick Cecil)



Nick has asked for Council's authorization to donate a surplus, 512GB Solid State Drive, worth \$53 to Standing Rock Cemetery for use in the administration of Cemetery business. Standing Rock Cemetery operates quasi-independently with some financial and administrative support from the City and Franklin Township. The City's IT Director responded to a request for technological assistance from the Cemetery's administrator to improve the function of the Cemetery's primary computer. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Nick reports that the replacement of the Cemetery's computer hard drive should solve the problem and Nick has a surplus used hard drive which he and I recommend Council approve donating to the Cemetery.

Council Action

Authorize the donation of one of the City's surplus 512GB Solid State hard drive, valued at \$53, to the Standing Rock Cemetery.

2. Accept Donation of Right of Way for the E. Main Street Project (Jim) (Ordinance #2024-118)



Jim has requested Council's authorization to approve the acceptance of a donation of permanent right of way from Kent State University for the East Main Street Improvement Project. Jim reports that this is the last right of way item needed for the project and the project can move forward into the construction phase. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The donated right of way from KSU is an important part of the East Main Street Project and I recommend Council's acceptance of the donated right of way.

Council Actions

Approve the acceptance of the right of way donation from KSU for the East Main Street Improvement Project, with the emergency clause.

3. Authorize Administrative Variance Recommendation (Bridget)



Davey Tree has asked to exceed the Zoning Code limit of 2 accessory structures at their new Seed Campus for a range of storage and training related structures needed on site. Bridget has the administrative authority to grant the Zoning variance, but the Law Department suggested obtaining Council's approval of her recommendation to grant the variance. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The 2 accessory unit (shed, detached garage, etc.) limit was designed with typical commercial/residential properties in mind, but the Davey Tree Seed campus is a unique property with unique functions on a 180-acre site which was not contemplated in the Zoning Code. With significant buffering and open space on the site, Bridget and I urge Council's approval of the administrative variance.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed administrative variance allowing Davey Tree to exceed the Zoning Code accessory structures limits at the Davey Tree Seed campus, by voice vote (no Ordinance is required).



Unauthorized Items (continued)

4. Authorization of 2 Resolutions of Intent for OPWC Projects (Jim) (Ordinances #2024-119, #2024-120)

Jim has asked for Council's approval of two resolutions of intent for two city projects that are funded using OPWC no interest loan funding (\$500,000 Water Tank rehabilitation and \$400,000 Clarifier rehabilitation). These resolutions of intent are a new requirement for OPWC funding that demonstrates the City's intent to move forward with the project. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

OPWC has begun requiring resolutions of intent for their no interest loan projects from the recipient cities and as recipients of two OPWC loan projects, Jim and I recommend Council's approval of the resolutions of intent. Council has already approved the projects (Ordinance 2023-043), but we need the resolutions to comply with the new OPWC requirement.

Council Action

Authorize and approve the two resolutions of intent for the City's OPWC no interest loan projects, with the emergency clause.

5. Authorization to Submit for FEMA AFG Grant Funding (Jamie) (Ordinance #2024-121)

Chief Samels has asked for Council's approval to submit a \$591,536.96 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) which if approved would be used to offset the costs to replace the 1994 ladder truck for the Fire Department. The grant request represents 25% of the total cost of a new ladder truck. The grant submission deadline is December 20, 2024. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The staff have tried unsuccessfully over a number of years to secure funding to be used to offset the high cost of the 30-year-old vehicle which is a critical apparatus for fire and life safety in serving the taller buildings in Kent. I urge Council's approval to submit for the AFG funding, and if awarded, to accept and allocate the funds.

Council Action

Authorize the submission of the \$591,536.96 in AFG funding and if awarded to accept and allocate those funds, with the emergency clause.



Information Items

1. Fire Incident Reports

Chief Samels has provided a copy of the fire and emergency medical services reports for November 2024. The MTD calls for fire service are up 36% (35 calls) compared with 2023. Calls for fire mutual aid assistance received MTD is down from 4 to 3 calls for the month in 2024 as compared to 2023; and EMS responses are up 15% (by 51 calls) for 2024, compared to MTD 2023. (attachment)

2. Income Tax Report

Rhonda Hall has provided a summary of income tax collections for September of 2024. Overall, the City income tax collections YTD are up 4.0% (\$643,953) compared with YTD of 2023. For the month of September, the City income tax collections are down 8.2% (\$127,221) compared to 2023. (attachment)

3. Monthly Permit and Zoning Reports

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the monthly zoning and permit violations report for October 2024. Permit revenues were \$3,714.25 for the month with the most permits being issued for Existing Residential (24 permits each). There were 11 code enforcement items for the month. (attachment)