



Public Hearing (Bridget)

Amy has scheduled a public hearing for Council to receive public comment on the proposed Zoning Code Amendments Chapters 1101 – 1106 beginning at 6:55 pm.

Community Development Committee

1. Proposed 2021 CDBG Action Plan (Bridget)

Kathy and Bridget have requested Committee time to provide an overview of the proposed 2021 CDBG Action Plan. The City anticipates receiving \$303,720 in 2021. Six project funding applications were received for funding in 2021 requesting a total of \$303,500. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The staff will provide an overview of the CDBG projects proposed for 2021 but we are not asking for Council's motion for authorization until May after the final public hearings are held.

Council Action

Receive the staff report, no action at this time.

Land Use Committee

1. Haymaker Farmer's Market Sub-Lease Renewal (Bridget)

Bridget has requested Committee time for Council to consider the renewal of the City's sublease with the Farmer's Market for the property that the City leases from the railroad along Franklin Avenue for the 2021 season. The sublease has been provided for \$1 per year beginning in 2012 and Bridget is recommending renewing that sublease for 2021. The Market has also asked to renew Council's approval to close a portion of Franklin Avenue again for safe social distancing during the outdoor market season. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's support to renew that sublease and approve the partial closure of Franklin Avenue as presented.

Council Action

Authorize the renewal of the sublease for the Farmer's Market and partial closure of Franklin Avenue as presented.

Health & Safety Committee

1. Proposed Amendments to the City's Tobacco 21 Ordinance (Joan)

Joan and Hope have requested Committee time for Council's consideration of proposed amendments to the City's Tobacco 21 Ordinance. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's support for the proposed amendments.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed amendments to the City's Tobacco 21 Ordinance as presented.



Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

1. Extension of Staff Authorization for the Use of City Right of Way (Jim)

Jim has requested Committee time to request Council's authorization to extend Council's previous authorization to allow the staff to make arrangements with businesses to utilize the City Right of Way to provide greater social distancing rather than having to wait until the next Council meeting for Council's approval. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Jim has had success working with Kent businesses to create seating areas outside their businesses on City sidewalks, parking areas, and streets in order to provide the maximum amount of safe social distancing. Council's previous authorization of this temporary staff authority expired December 31, 2020. I urge Council's support to extend the staff authority through December 31, 2021.

Council Actions

Authorize the staff authority to negotiate the private use of City right of way for 2021 as presented.



2. Consideration of a Request for a New Water Line Tie-in (Jim)

Jim has requested Committee time to present a request to connect Kent City water to the new carwash which will be located at 1788 SR59 in the Franklin Township. The new location is outside Kent City limits and billing will be subject to a 50% surcharge. The City Engineering Division have determined that the water lines adequate to meet the needs of the new business and it will be subject to all tap fees, etc. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Adding water service outside the City requires Council authorization and I recommend Council's approval.

Council Actions

Authorize the water extension and tie-in for the new carwash as presented.



Finance Committee

1. Proposed Ohio EPA Loan Agreement (Jim)

Jim has requested Council's consideration of proposed Ohio EPA Loan Agreement which would be used to fund the Southwest Sanitary Pump Station project. Jim reports that he is requesting a higher additional loan amount to cover more of the costs (up to \$2.5 million) of the project at a favorable interest rate of 1.69% over 20 years. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization of the loan agreement as presented.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed loan agreement as presented.



2. Proposed Kent Parks & Recreation MOU (Jim, Rhonda, Melanie)

Jim has requested Committee time for Council's authorization to approve a proposed memorandum of understanding between Kent Parks and Recreation and the City to provide a loan in the amount of \$460,000 to ensure the timely completion of the Portage Hike & Bike Trail project (Brady's Leap Segment) that is schedule to begin this year. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Due to Parks and Rec funding shortfalls, an MOU for a loan was drafted to ensure the trail project can be completed and I recommend Council's support as presented.

Council Actions

Authorize the MOU for a \$460,000 Parks and Rec loan as presented.



Finance Committee (continued)

3. Consideration of Final Easement for Sanitary Sewer Station Project (Jim)

Jim has requested Committee time for Council's consideration of the terms for a couple of the final easement agreements (at a cost of \$3,000) needed to proceed with the Southwest Sanitary Pump Station project. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Jim reports that the terms of the agreement are considered consistent with fair market value and I recommend Council's support.

Council Actions

Authorize the easement agreement for the Southwest Sanitary Sewer Pump Station project as presented.



4. Proposed Amendment to the Health Department Lease Agreement with PARTA (Joan, Hope, Melanie)

Joan has requested Committee time for Council's approval of a proposed amendment to the Health Department lease for space at the PARTA Central Gateway. The current lease provides 2nd floor space for the Health Department offices but Joan and Hope have drafted the proposed lease amendment to include additional space on the ground floor for use as a clinic for vaccine distribution and other patient services in 2021. PARTA has also asked for some increases in janitorial related costs for the 2nd floor space. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

With the addition of the maintenance and ground floor costs, the Health Department monthly lease costs will increase to \$2,013/month for the 2nd floor space and \$1,925/month for the ground floor space. We plan to use Health Department revenues, grant funds and if necessary General Funds to cover the additional costs which are deemed necessary during the pandemic.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed PARTA lease amendment as presented.



5. Authorization to Accept and Escrow NOPEC Grant Funds (Melanie)

Melanie has requested Committee time for Council's approval to secure NOPEC grant funds that have are available for the City (up to \$49,978) to use for energy saving related investments. The staff will utilize the funds for eligible energy saving upgrades at City buildings and facilities. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

These grant funds will be used to upgrade critical power related equipment and I recommend Council's authorization of the grant acceptance and appropriation.

Council Actions

Authorize the acceptance and appropriation of the NOPEC NEC grant funds as presented.



Information Items

1. Kent Police Statistics

Chief Shearer has provided a copy of the police statistics report for January 2021. In 2020 calls for service are down 41% (949 calls); traffic citations are down 69% (178 tickets); accident incidents are down 26% (15 incidents) and serious crimes are up (3 cases). (attachment)