



Committee of the Whole

1. Proposed Ward Revisions (Bridget)

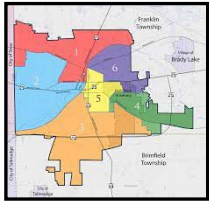
Bridget has requested Committee time for Council's consideration of the proposed changes to the Ward maps based on the latest census data population counts and the City's Charter requirements. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Due to changes in reported population by census track, the staff had to make some modifications to the Ward maps to ensure the required balance in population across the different Wards where population counts have changed (per the City Charter). Council had some concerns with the initial Ward reconfiguration so Bridget has provided an alternative Ward revision map that I recommend Council approve.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and authorize the proposed Ward revisions as presented, with the emergency clause.



2. 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.



Community Development Committee

1. New TRES Liquor Transfer Request for 164 East Main Street (Bridget)

Bridget and Eric have requested Committee time to present Council with a request from the owners of a new Mexican restaurant (Fest Mex LLC) located in the former Twisted Melts space in Acorn Alley (164 East Main Street, Suite B) to transfer a liquor license into Kent under the terms established by Council for TRES liquor licenses. The request is for a new D-5 license which would allow for the sale of wine, liquor, and beer on the premises. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Bridget has reviewed the TRES request and she reports that the applicant has met the criteria established by City Council and the staff recommends Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the TRES liquor license transfer request for 164 East Main Street as presented, with the emergency clause.



Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

1. Special Event Request, Kent State 5K (Bridget, Eric)



The City of Kent has received an application from Molly Speyer on behalf of Kent State University Athletics, to hold a 5K race on Saturday, September 16, 2023. Runners will stage on South Water Street between Main Street and Erie Street. At 9:00 a.m., the race will begin at the intersection of South Water Street and East Erie Street, follow a route which connects Downtown, Kent State University, and The Portage Bike and Hike, where it will finish at Dix Stadium no later than 10:00 a.m. A number of street closures have been requested. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Receive the staff report and approve the temporary street closure requests as presented.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and approve the temporary street closure requests as presented with the emergency clause.

Health & Public Safety Committee

1. Proposed Changes to Municipal Lot Parking Restrictions (Bridget)



Bridget has requested Committee time to present a request from a downtown business to amend the current 3 am to 6 am "no parking" restrictions for the municipal parking lot on Columbus Street to 2:30 am to 5:30 a.m. in order to allow the business employees who start work at 6 am to park in the lot without being ticketed. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

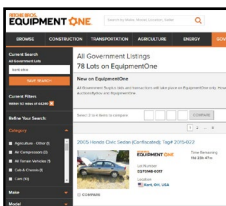
The City's Traffic, Engineering and Safety Committee reviewed the request and they support the proposed change. I recommend Council's support for the proposed change to move the hours of restricted parking to 2:30 a.m. to 5:30 a.m. for the City's municipal lot as presented.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and approve the proposed changes to the hours of the parking restrictions for the City's municipal parking lots downtown as presented, with the emergency clause.

Finance Committee

1. Authorization of City Surplus Vehicle Property Auction (Melanie)



Melanie is requesting Council time to authorize the sale of 2 retired City vehicles to go to auction. Melanie has provided a list of the vehicles (attached) that are proposed for sale. Similar to previous years, we plan to use an online bidding service for the auction service. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization to proceed with the surplus City vehicle property sale as presented.

Council Action

Authorize the surplus City vehicle property sale at auction as presented, with the emergency clause.

Finance Committee (continued)

2. Certify Tax Rates and Amounts to Portage County (Rhonda)

Rhonda has requested Council's authorization to submit the City projected 2024 tax rates and amounts to the Portage County Auditor. This is an annual process that is required by Ohio Revised Code, Sections 5705.34 & 5705.35 to be submitted to the County Auditor before October 1st of each year. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

There is no proposed change in the City's tax rates and I recommend Council authorize and certify the tax rates and amounts provided by Rhonda for submission to the Portage County Auditor.

Council Action

Authorize and certify the tax rates and amounts for submission to the Portage County Auditor, with the Emergency Clause.

3. 2023 Budget Appropriations Amendment (Rhonda)

Rhonda has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2023 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 2023 budget appropriations amendments as presented, with the emergency clause.

Information Items

1. Monthly Permit and Zoning Reports

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the monthly zoning and permit violations report for July 2023. Permit revenues were \$17,061.45 for July with the most permits being issued for residential HVAC and Existing Residential Remodel (28 permits each). There were 8 code enforcement items for the month. (attachment)

2. Kent Police Statistics

Chief Shearer has provided a copy of the police statistics report for July 2023. In 2023, calls for service are down 5.7% for the month (by 107 calls); traffic citations are down 18.1% (25 tickets); accident incidents are up 41.7% (by 36 incidents) for the month and serious crimes are up from 0 to 2 incidents, compared to July of 2022. (attachment)

3. Income Tax Report

Rhonda Hall has provided a summary of income tax collections for July of 2023. Overall, the City income tax collections YTD are up 9.3% (\$907,184) compared with YTD of 2022. For the month of July, the City income tax collections are down 5% (\$73,319) compared to 2022. (attachment)

