



Public Hearing

1. The City Clerk has scheduled a public hearing on the proposed 2024 City of Kent Tax Budget at 7:00 pm.

Committee of the Whole

1. 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.



2. Codified Ordinance Book Update (Hope)

Hope has asked for Committee time to ask for Council's approval to update the City's Ordinance book to reflect the necessary changes in law that need to be integrated into the City Code. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Receive the staff update and adopt the Ordinance book updates as presented.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and approve the proposed updates to the City's Ordinance book as presented, with the emergency clause.



Community Development Committee

1. Design Guidelines (Bridget)

Bridget has requested Committee time to present the recommendations for Phase 3 of the design guideline update and to receive Council and public comments on those recommendations. The Phase 3 recommendations have been emailed to all the stakeholders and anyone that submitted comments during the first 2 phases of the project, and the recommendations have been presented to the Architectural Review Board and Design Review Board. The recommendations will be presented to the Planning Commission next month and once all the public comments have been reviewed, the staff hopes to present the final design guidelines for approval in September 2023. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Receive the staff report and offer comments on the proposed recommendations for Phase 3 of the Design Guideline update. No action is needed at this time.

Council Action

Receive the staff report, and offer comments, no action is needed.



Health and Public Safety Committee

1. Business District Noise (Nick, Hope)

Nick and Hope have asked for Committee time to suggest a temporary change to the hours of the City's noise Ordinance from no later than 9 pm every day of the week to no later than 10 pm Sunday through Thursday and 11 pm Friday and Saturday for the remainder of the 2023 outdoor music season. At the end of the season, the staff will review with Council the impacts of the change in hours to see what lessons were learned and what changes may need to be made for the 2024 outdoor season. The issues of noise volume during these extended hours would continue to be at the discretion of the Police and the business/property owner. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The idea is to test run a schedule change and gather data that can be used to better balance the popularity of live music in downtown Kent with the quality of life in adjacent neighborhoods. Receive the staff report, discuss, and direct staff accordingly.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.



Finance Committee

1. City OPWC Grant and Loan Requests Authorization (Jim)

Jim has requested Committee time to ask for Council's approval to submit two funding applications and to execute the subsequent agreements with the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC). The proposed projects include: 1)WRF Primary Clarifier Project (we are requesting \$229,900 in grant funds and \$150,000 in no interest loans from OPWC); and 2)Water Tank Rehabilitations (we are requesting \$392,800 in grant funds and \$150,000 in no interest loans from OPWC). (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The remaining funding for these projects is included in the approved 2023 Capital Improvement Plan (with \$400,000 needed to be moved up a year for the Water Tank project). I recommend Council's approval for the OPWC grant submissions.

Council Actions

Authorize the submission of the OPWC grant requests as presented, with the emergency clause.

2. ARPA First Responder Grant Request (Nick, Jamie)

Nick has asked for Committee time to ask for Council's approval to apply, accept and allocate additional State ARPA first responder funding (we have already received \$102,000) to be used to support the City's recruitment efforts for public safety (Police and Fire) positions. The State announced that they have additional ARPA funding available and the City's public safety staff would like to pursue those additional funds. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Authorize the staff to submit for the additional State ARPA funding to supplement public safety recruitment efforts and if awarded, authorize the acceptance and allocation of those funds.

Council Action

Authorize the staff to submit for the additional State ARPA funding to supplement public safety recruitment efforts and if awarded, authorize the acceptance and allocation of those funds with the emergency clause.





Finance Committee (continued)

3. Proposed 2024 County Tax Budget (Rhonda)

Rhonda has prepared the draft 2024 Tax Budget for Council's approval. This budget document is required by the County for notification of any changes to the tax rate in the next budget. Our draft County Tax Budget proposes no changes to the tax rates in the City. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

With no proposed changes to the tax rates, approval of the County tax budget is primarily procedural and I encourage Council's authorization of the tax budget. We will get into our annual City budget deliberations in greater detail in October.

Council Action

Authorize submission of the City's 2024 Tax Budget to the County, with the emergency clause.

4. 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.



Special Regular Council Session

The City Clerk has scheduled a Special Regular Council Session immediately following the Committee meetings so that Council can approve the proposed 2024 Tax Budget and submit it to the County in accordance with the State and local submission deadlines.

Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Rhonda Hall has provided a summary of income tax collections for May of 2023. Overall, the City income tax collections YTD are up 11.7% (\$800,154) compared with YTD of 2022. For the month of May, the City income tax collections are up 9.7% (\$156,439) compared to 2022. (attachment)