



Unauthorized Items

1. Appointments

Council will be voting on a slate of candidates for the Fair Housing Board, Income Tax Board of Review, and the Environmental Commission.

2. Adopt a Spot Donation

Davey Tree has made a \$250 donation to the Adopt A Spot program and Council is being asked to accept that donation.

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council accept the donation.

Council Action

Accept the donation.

3. Clean Ohio Bond Fund Renewal

The Citizens for a Clean Ohio campaign met with the City staff to discuss the possible support of the City of Kent for the renewal of the Clean Ohio Bond Fund. The \$400 million bond renewal is up for voter approval again on November 4th and the City has been asked to consider adopting a resolution supporting the initiative. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The City has been a beneficiary of Clean Ohio Bond funds and the environmental uses of these funds are consistent with the recreational, environmental and water quality objectives identified in our sustainability goals (this may also be a funding source for the City's waterwater initiative) so I would request Council's endorsement of this bipartisan legislation.

Council Action

Adopt the resolution supporting the renewal of the Clean Ohio Bond fund.

4. EMS Donation

The Patrick Ray family has made a donation of \$75 to the Fire Department in memory of Millicent Lowther and Council is being asked to accept that donation.

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council accept the donation.

Council Action

Accept the donation.

5. Spaulding Bridge Ordinance Amendment

The dollar amount listed in the original ordinance approved by Council needs to be modified and this amendment makes that clarification.

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council adopt the amended ordinance.

Council Action

Adopt the amended ordinance.



Unauthorized Items (continued)

6. Fairchild Avenue Bridge Project Right of Way Agreements

As previously discussed, rather than bringing the construction project Right of Way Agreements for full Committee review we have placed them on your agenda as unauthorized. Again, these Agreements (Draft Nos. 08-124, 08-130, 08-131, and 08-132) were negotiated within the parameters established by ODOT for this project.

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's approval of the Right of Way Agreements.

Council Action

Approve the Right of Way Agreements as presented.

7. Fire Department Capital Re-Appropriation

Bill Lillich has provided Council with a request to re-appropriate funds to replace a 1996 ambulance that has exceeded its service life. The funds are available in the Fire Equipment Reserve Fund, Barb just needs Council to authorize the use of those funds at this time.

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's appropriation amendment as presented.

Council Action

Approve the appropriation amendment.

Information Items

1. Main Street Kent Monthly Reports

Mary Gilbert has provided her monthly operations reports for the 2nd quarter of 2008 (April, May and June). The monthly reports are a great way to keep up with the activities and re-investment projects going on downtown. The Phoenix project generated a lot of excitement with its \$6 million announcement this summer but the reports also show how smaller reinvestment (\$75,000 for the quarter) is quietly making an equally important impact on downtown revitalization. (attachments)

2. Bi-Centennial Plan Progress Report

At the Request of the Planning Commission Gary Locke has provided an update on the status of the actions taken towards the fulfillment of the City's sustainability goals. Although this is not an exhaustive list (it focuses on areas of interest to the Planning Commission) I was impressed by how much has been accomplished and has much is underway. (attachment)

3. Income Tax Report

Barb has provided a summary of income tax collections thru July 31, 2008. The income tax receipts continue to remain on pace to meet budgetary expectations which is good news. Total collections for 2008 are up 3.34% from 2007 which means our effective buying power has at least kept pace with inflation. (attachment)

4. Planning Commission Staff Report

I have included a copy of the agenda and staff report for this month's Planning Commission meeting scheduled for August 19, 2008 for your review. There are 2 cases before the Commission (121 W. College Street, and Sheetz). Given the level of interest in the proposed new Sheetz location at the corner of Fairchild Avenue and SR43 I wanted you to have the benefit of reading the staff recommendation and seeing some photos of the proposed new Sheetz store. It's worth noting that at staff's urging the Sheetz plan shows a modified store architecture that attempts to be more consistent with the character of the neighborhood. (attachment)



Information Items (continued)

5. Trash Management Services Bid

As we have begun to prepare the bid for the City's trash collection contract Jim Silver has advised that he believes we need to establish a "public utility" for trash hauling in order to issue the bid. He's requested a little more time to research this matter further so you will not be asked to vote on the trash hauling item until he's completed his review. As a point of interest I would note that the president of one of Kent's homeowner associations told me that his association saved the homeowners 25% from their bill when they went from the trash haul free-for-all approach to a combined bid so he would not be surprised to see equal if not better savings from a citywide effort.

6. Greater Downtown Revitalization Strategizing

I wanted to let you know that the City's consultant has finished the first round of interviews of key stakeholders involved in downtown redevelopment and we've also held one official meeting with our Revitalization Steering Team that includes Councilman Hawksley, Councilmember Shaffer and some 14 other strategic partners. The topics have ranged from very practical matters like parking to more theoretical principles of good urban design. At this point the consultant is taking all this input back to his office where he will work on overlaying the comments with the various project plans to begin to create the seamless connectivity that we are all hoping for. In early September our consultant will be back to begin the next round of discussions on his preliminary redevelopment blueprint work. The point of this extensive planning effort is to enable the City to help guide private reinvestment and maximize the impact of public investment to achieve the community's goals for downtown revitalization. As the work begins to produce some products for review I'll be sure to keep all of you informed.

7. Fire Operations Report

The Fire Chief has provided a short synopsis of fire calls comparing the last 3 years of operation. As you will read he's feeling the stress of staff limitations as their workload has continued to climb. It's important to note that at Council's recommendation we did authorize an additional \$250,000 be allocated to the Fire Department to support more staff coverage on an overtime basis beginning last year. (attachment)

8. TV Recycling

The Portage County Solid Waste Management District has asked the City to help promote their upcoming television recycling initiative that they have planned to occur on September 20th from 9 am to 2 pm at Dix Stadium. To that end, we plan to include the following language on the back of our next utility bills:

COUNTY RECYCLING
T.V. COLLECTION
9/20/08 9:00-2:00
DIX STADIUM
INFO CALL 330-678-8808

9. Board of Zoning Appeals Staff Report

I have included a copy of the agenda for this month's Board of Zoning Appeals meeting scheduled for August 18, 2008 for your review. There is 1 case before the Board (1110 Verona Avenue lot split and lot size variance). (attachment)