

# Financial Strategy Resource Team

overtime	staffing	reductions	fees	taxes	econ dev	parking lot
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July 24, 2006

Good Afternoon,

Enclosed are the materials for our 7<sup>th</sup> Financial Workshop scheduled for Wednesday, July 26 at 7 p.m. This meeting will give us a chance to review the items set aside in the parking lot over the last 6 months. We're using the July Workshop to go through the items that Council wanted more information on.

These items include:

- 1) ~~Compare City Department OT to peer cities~~ *(done to extent possible in previous meeting)*
- 2) Calculate service demand vs. revenue contributions from Kent State *(to be presented)*
- 3) ~~Discuss legal costs and use of professional services for legal work~~ *(done in previous meeting)*
- 4) Calculate effective tax rate for Kent residents and compare with peer cities *(in progress)*
- 5) Investigate the use of seasonal Solid Waste fees *(deferred - as it requires more time for analysis)*
- 6) Evaluate the impact of charging for parking *(deferred to Aug./Sept. per R. Hawksley's request)*
- 7) Explore the use of using city inspection personnel in the JEDD area *(in progress)*
- 8) Rate of unemployment and retirees from census data *(to be presented)*
- 9) Further investigation into fees that can be charged, e.g., street lighting *(to be presented)*
- 10) Identification of a 10 year solution showing necessary cuts to balance budget *(in progress)*
- 11) Report on the amount of outstanding fines for last 5 years *(done in previous meeting)*
- 12) Report on feasibility of integrating KSU and City fee/fine collection systems *(in progress)*

The attachments in the packet include an agenda for Wednesday's meeting, a recap of the sixth meeting, and some materials related to the parking lot items. We'll also have additional materials to hand out Wednesday night as well.

By August we should be in a position to focus on how we balance our budget over the next 3-5 years in what we're calling our "financial strategy." As we are moving closer to decision time, I have advised the city employees that both Council and the Administration have stated that layoffs of any current city employees are NOT being considered. I noted that we will continue to look at reductions through attrition before automatically filling vacancies but that's nothing new, we've been doing that for a while now. I anticipate some more discussions about reducing budgets, examining changes to service levels and possibly raising new revenues but I didn't want anyone to be alarmed over these discussions and worry about their jobs.

I'll see you Wednesday night.



Dave Ruller  
City Manager  
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