

March 9, 2007



## Land Use Committee Items

### 1. Zoning Text Amendment – Swimming Pool Fences



In December the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing to consider a text amendment to the Kent Zoning Code. The proposed amendment expands the space allowed in pool fencing from 3" to 4" between panels. The Planning Commission voted 4-0 in favor of the Amendment.

#### *Administration Recommendation*

Support staff's recommendation to amend the zoning code.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize the proposed text amendment changes.**

## Finance Committee Items

### 2. Christenson Foundation Adopt-A-Spot Flower Grant



Last year the city received a \$1,000 donation from the Christenson Foundation to support the costs associated with the Adopt-A-Spot flower program. Gene Roberts is seeking Council's approval to apply for more funds for 2007. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

There is no local match required and the funds are used to help offset the material costs for the Adopt-A-Spot program, so the administration recommends Council's authorization to proceed with the grant application.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize staff to apply for the grant funds.**

### 3. Reprogram Water Plant Funds



After dealing with the impacts of an unexpected pump break-down, Gene Roberts and Steve Hardesty re-evaluated their capital needs and are requesting Council's approval to purchase a new continuous duty generator as soon as possible. The purchase of the generator is expected to save money immediately and extend the life of pump which will save money long term. (attachment)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

I have talked to Gene about the change in priorities and it was clear to me that he and Steve have done a good deal of research on this topic. I believe they have made a good recommendation, so I support the request.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize staff to proceed with the new capital purchase.**



#### 4. Installation of Glass Vestibule for City Clerk

At the request of the City Clerk, Gene has obtained a price quote of \$6,900 for the installation of an interior glass foyer in order to provide better temperature control in the City Clerk's office area. (attachment)

##### *Administration Recommendation*

Gene advises that the new installation should result in cost savings due to better temperature balancing, so I recommend Council's support for this item.

##### *Council Action*

**Authorize staff to proceed with the new purchase and installation.**

## Health and Safety Committee

#### 5. Regulation on Arcade and Skill Based Games

In response to a couple of recent applications for new businesses that propose to offer arcade and skill based games in Kent, Gary Locke has been working with Jim Silver to draft legislation that would help regulate these new type of gaming businesses. The Ohio Attorney General's Office had made some initial indications that these games were not permitted as they were more gambling than skill based games, but Jim Silver advises that rather than relying on the AG position, the city should adopt legislation similar to that of the city of Tallmadge's that provides some measure of oversight for these businesses. (attachments)

##### *Administration Recommendation*

Obviously the city is interested in supporting new business activity in Kent, but likewise the administration thinks it's important to maintain some quality control over types of businesses and to that end, I support the recommended legislation.

##### *Council Action*

**Authorize staff to proceed with the development of the new arcade legislation.**

#### 6. Neighborhood Issues Continued

It is my understanding that staff did not complete their presentation on the neighborhood issues, so Committee time has been extended for more discussion. Gary Locke has added a short summary of the Community Development Department's enforcement activities and he provided a report from the City of Toledo that reviews their nuisance abatement and ticketing process for your consideration. (attachments)

##### *Administration Recommendation*

Receive the staff information and ask questions as appropriate.

##### *Council Action*

**No action required at this time.**



## Streets, Sidewalks and Utilities Committee

### 7. Area Q Phase IV

Engineering is preparing to proceed with drainage improvements to Area Q, Phase IV, that will include the following streets: Overbrook, Brentwood, Laurel and a portion of Chelton. The improvements are scheduled to be funded through assessments. Staff is seeking Council's authorization to proceed with neighborhood meetings in April so as to move the project forward and begin the assessment process. (attachments)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

This phase of the project is included in the approved 2007 Capital Plan, so the administration recommends Council's authorization to proceed.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize staff to proceed with the project and initiate the assessment process.**

### 8. Franklin Hills and Revolving Loan Fund

Engineering is ready to begin the water extension project into Franklin Hills as previously approved by Council, but it is necessary for Council to first pass a resolution authorizing the staff to apply for and enter into a water supply revolving loan to finance the project. Staff will review the elements of the application and the terms of repayment for the project with Council. (attachments)

#### *Administration Recommendation*

The use of the revolving loan fund is the recommended source of funding, so the administration encourages Council authorization to proceed with the loan fund application process.

#### *Council Action*

**Authorize staff to apply for the revolving loan fund.**

## Information Items

### 1. Jim Silver Letter to State Representative Chandler

I have attached a copy of the letter that Jim Silver sent to Kathleen Chandler at Council's request. The letter asks for her consideration of the feasibility of a "head tax" on college/university students.

### 2. Brady Lake Lawsuit

Jim Silver also asked me to share with you a copy of the 5<sup>th</sup> lawsuit filed by the Village of Brady Lake against the city related to groundwater well fields.

### 3. February Permit and Zoning Report

I have attached a copy of the monthly permit and zoning complaint report prepared by Gary Locke and his staff. You will note that for the first 2 months of 2007, permit applications are down about 10% and the permit fee revenues are down by about \$7,000 or 18% from last year.

### 4. Multi-Modal Study

Earlier in the week I emailed copies of the draft Multi-Modal project schedule. I have attached a hard copy of that work activity outline.

