



Interviews Boards and Commissions

The City Clerk has scheduled a Council Work Session to interview candidates for vacancies on City Boards and Commissions.

Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

1. ODOT Agreement for Allen Drive Bridge Repair

Jim Bowling has requested Committee time for Council to consider authorizing the approval of the ODOT local agreement that would allow ODOT to proceed with the necessary repair of Allen Drive Bridge. Allen Drive Bridge has a number of structural deficiencies resulting from age and use, and Jim has worked with ODOT to have the State repair the bridge at their cost. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The proposed agreement allows the City to partner with ODOT to have a critical element of the City's bridge infrastructure repaired through State bridge safety funding and I recommend Council's approval of the local agreement.

Council Action

Authorize the ODOT Local Agreement for the repair of Allen Drive Bridge.

2. ODOT Agreement for Citywide Bridge Inspection

Jim Bowling has requested Committee time to present an opportunity for the City to partner with ODOT to have the 2014-16 City bridge inspections performed by a contractor under an ODOT contract. ODOT is taking a more active role in local bridge inspections and they have offered to fund the costs of a professional bridge engineering firm to inspect all of the City's bridges for the next 3 years. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The City usually hires a professional bridge engineer to perform bridge inspections in the City so the staff expects to save approximately \$9,000 per year by partnering with ODOT for the inspections. I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Approve a City-ODOT Agreement for bridge inspection in the City in 2014-16.

Finance Committee

3. Supplemental Street Paving and Repair Request

Jim Bowling, Gene Roberts, Dave Coffee and I have been working on developing a supplemental funding strategy to increase the budget allocation for the repair of City streets following what has proven to be a particularly harsh winter for street damage. Street repairs and re-surfacing has also been a major topic of Council discussion over the last 18 months. Council authorized an extra \$250,000 for street repairs in 2012, an extra \$228,500 in 2013, and the staff and I are recommending an additional \$250,000 for street repairs in 2014. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Street repairs are a critical need in the City and I recommend Council's continued support in 2014 for the additional street funding appropriation of \$250,000.

Council Action

Authorize the additional \$250,000 in street funding appropriated as presented.



Finance Committee

4. Communication Contract Negotiations



Gene Roberts has requested Committee time to request Council's consideration to authorize the staff to initiate negotiations with AT&T and other communications service providers to secure better pricing for the City's contracts, similar to Council's authorization granted for electric rate shopping. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

I recommend Council's support granting the latitude necessary for staff to proceed with communications contract negotiations.

Council Action

Authorize the staff to proceed with communications contract negotiations as presented.

5. Fire Grants Requests



Chief Tosko has requested Committee time for Council's consideration to authorize the Fire Department to submit an AFG and a Fire Prevention grant application to support Fire operations. The AFG grant (\$91,740 total, \$9,174 City contribution) is for new protective gear for each firefighter and the Fire Prevention Grant (\$14,681 total, \$734 City contribution) is for keys and lock boxes for senior citizens. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Both of these grants provide significant cost savings to the City while ensuring exceptional public safety services and I recommend Council's authorization to submit the grants, and if awarded, to accept the grant funds for appropriation.

Council Actions

Authorize the grant application and accept the grant funds for appropriation.

6. City Salt Purchase Request



Gene Roberts has requested Council's authorization to enter into the 2014-15 ODOT Agreement for salt purchases. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Based on some of the salt delivery challenges in 2013, ODOT has modified the contract but Gene and I still recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the City's participation in the 2014-15 ODOT salt contract.

7. 2014 Appropriations Amendment



Dave Coffee has been working with the department heads to review the 2014 budget and he has identified items that need to be re-appropriated. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization of the 2014 appropriations amendment.

Council Actions

Approve the 2014 appropriations amendment as presented.

Special Council Meeting

The City Clerk has scheduled a Special Council meeting for Council to authorize the City's participation in the ODOT salt contract.

Finance Committee (continued)

9. Review of the City's Dangerous Dogs Ordinance

Council referred the City's dangerous dog Ordinance back into Committee for further discussion on the offenses and schedule of penalties. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Review and discuss the Ordinance and advise staff accordingly.

Council Action

Review and discuss the Dangerous Dog Ordinance and advise staff accordingly.



10. City School Request for School Resource Officer Position

Police Chief Michelle Lee has requested Committee time to discuss the Kent City School request to add an officer to the Kent Police Department that would be dedicated to work at Kent Roosevelt High School as a School Resource Officer. Michelle has participated in a series of discussions with representatives from Kent City Schools to work out the details of hiring an additional Police Officer to support the needs of the School system and she is prepared to recommend Council's authorization of an additional position to her department that would be funded through Kent City Schools. Michelle will provide an overview of the mechanics of this proposed new hire. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

With the Kent City Schools funding the position, I recommend Council's support and authorization to proceed with the proposal as presented.

Council Action

Authorize staff to proceed with hiring a School Resource Officer position.



11. Carter Lumber Donation Offer

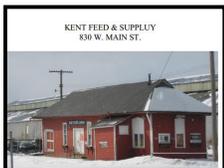
Gene Roberts has requested Committee time to present an offer from Carter Lumber to donate the former feed supply building located on their property on West Main Street. The building was recently vacated by the feed supply company and Carter Lumber plans to demolish the building but has offered it for free to the City if the City was willing to take it and pay to relocate it. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The former feed store building is an aging structure that has become dilapidated and as a result the staff have concerns for the mobility of the building and the re-use potential of the structure given the chemical exposure that the building has had. If there was a known and desired end use for the building staff would recommend a chemical exposure evaluation by completed, with a thorough cost analysis prior to agreeing to accept and relocated the building, but there is no end use identified at this time and I do not recommend accepting this donation.

Council Action

Review and discuss the donation opportunity and direct staff accordingly.



Information Items

1. Monthly Permit and Zoning Reports

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the monthly zoning and permit violations report for January and February 2014. The total number of permits issued thru the end of January was up 41% from last year and the corresponding revenues were up 64% (\$32,886). The Code Enforcement Officer was out of the office in January so items were addressed on a complaint basis. The February report may look different than usual, they are now using the New World system to track data. Permit revenues were \$13,375 for the month of February with the most permits being issued for residential HVAC (11 permits). There were 9 code enforcement items in February which were mostly related to snow on sidewalks. (attachment)

Information Items (continued)

2. Traffic Engineering & Safety Report

Suzanne Stemnock has provided a copy of the summary notes from the January 16th Traffic Safety Committee meeting. One item were discussed at the meeting, the possible closure of Willow Street from College Street to State Route 59 due to the construction of the new University architectural building. (attachment)

3. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of February 2014. Overall the City income tax collections are up 6.09% (\$110,613) from February 2013. Kent State University's collections thru the end of February are up 2.94% (\$21,671). (attachment)

4. Fire Incident Report

Chief Tosko has provided a copy of the fire and emergency medical services report for February 2014. In 2014 calls for fire service are up 5% (6 calls); fire mutual aid assistance is down 1 event in 2014; and EMS responses are down 3% (16 calls). (attachment)