



Fire Department Swearing-In Ceremony

Just a reminder that as Public Safety Director I will swear in new Fire Chief John Tosko and a couple of other Captains and Lieutenants at the start of our meeting.

Unauthorized Items

The City Clerk reports that there are no unauthorized items up for Council consideration this week.

Information Items

1. Main Street Kent Magazine Insert

I have provided a copy of the Main Street Kent insert that was included in the November issue of the Akron Life magazine. It is a great showcase of all downtown Kent has to offer.

2. Invitation to Chamber and PARTA Business After Hours

The Chamber of Commerce and PARTA are hosting a business after hours next Thursday, January 16th, from 5 pm to 8 pm on the second floor of the PARTA parking deck on Erie Street. The purpose is to officially welcome Claudia Amrhein in her new role as General Manager.

3. AMATS State of Infrastructure Report

I have shared a copy of the AMATS State of Infrastructure Report for you information. This past Fall we had a lot of discussion on our local street conditions so I thought this you might find this data informative as it conveys the challenges region-wide to keep streets and bridges in good working condition. (attachment)

4. AMATS Bike Crash Report

AMATS recently completed an analysis of reported bicycle accidents region-wide and given the growing interest in protecting cyclists and pedestrians here in Kent, I wanted to share the findings of the report with you. Coincidentally, I read an article this week that summarized the success of cycling safety in Portland and one of the main conclusions was the more bicyclists that ride and are seen riding in the community, the more the community learns to expect to see cyclists and the more aware locals become for cyclist safety. In other words, the greatest gains for bicycle safety come from getting more people to ride. I think we're seeing that transition begin here in Kent and I'm hopeful that the increasing number of cyclists that we're all seeing around town is impacting the culture of sharing the road and at times the sidewalks. (attachment)

5. Health Board Meeting Minutes and Department Statistics

Jeff Neistadt has provided copies of the Health Board agenda (for the January 14th meeting) and the statistical report for December 2013. Health Department revenues are up 25% (\$55,805) and permits are down 30% (198 permits) in 2013 from 2012. (attachment)