



Public Hearing: Wells-Sherman House Historic Designation

Please note that we will begin our Committee meeting with a Public Hearing on the proposed designation of the Wells-Sherman House as an historic property. The public hearing is a required step in the historic designation application process.

Finance Committee

1. 2013 Appropriations Amendments

Dave Coffee has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2013 budget line items and he has prepared the necessary appropriations amendments to reflect the changes needed to balance those line items. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization of the appropriations amendments.

Council Actions

Approve the appropriations amendments as presented.

2. Economic Development Part Time Position Request

Bridget Susel and I are requesting Committee time to request Council's consideration to authorize creating a temporary (1 year) part time position for economic development to assist the staff while Dan recovers from his health condition. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The staff and I have looked at the options to keep the City's economic development priorities moving forward and given the opportunistic nature of economic development projects we believe that the least expensive and most productive work arrangement for the City is the creation of a part time position that could work with Dan on an on-going basis and be available to fill in a wide range of economic development projects. Dave Coffee and I have reviewed the budget figures and we believe that we can absorb the additional personnel cost within our existing budget line items and I urge Council's support.

Council Actions

Authorize the creation of an additional temporary position for economic development for up to a 1 year as proposed by the staff.



Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

3. Rockwell Street Condition Status Report

At Council's request, Jim Bowling and Gene Roberts will update Council on the streets selected for the 2013 paving and street resurfacing projects, and provide further details on the status of Rockwell Street.

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff report.

Council Action

No action necessary.



Community Development Committee

4. 2013 Celebrate Kent Grant Awards

Bridge Susel has evaluated the applications that we received for the 2013 Celebrate Kent Grant Awards and she has prepared her funding recommendation for Council's approval. The funding requests exceeded the budget by \$4,000 so Bridget apportioned the difference across the various requests. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I would recommend Council's support for this year's funding proposals as presented.

Council Action

Authorize the 2013 Celebrate Kent funds as presented.



5. Architectural Review Board

At Council's request the staff have requested Committee time for Council to re-consider the role of the Architectural Review Board (ARB). Council has previously received a report from Jim Silver on the issues related to conflict of interest and Council requested further clarification on ARB membership requirements.

Administration Recommendation

In April City Council voted to maintain the ARB function as regulatory and the staff supports that position.

Council Actions

Receive the staff update and direct staff accordingly.



6. Wells Sherman House Historic Designation

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council to consider a request to designate the Wells Sherman House as an historic property through the City's certified local government designation process. Although the Wells Sherman House failed to meet the State of Ohio Historic Preservation Office requirements for historic designation, the house can still receive an historic designation through the City's local government certification process. The applicants note that the historic designation would make some of the restoration work eligible for certain tax credits and grants that they are currently not eligible to receive. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

In supporting the relocation of the Wells Sherman House the City acknowledged the historic value of the property and I would recommend Council's support for the historic designation request.

Council Action

Approve the historic designation request for the Wells Sherman House.



Community Development Committee (continued)

7. Franklin Avenue House Demolition



Bridget Susel and Erik Fink have requested Committee time for Council's consideration of a request from the property owner located at 509 Franklin Avenue to accept a quit claim deed transfer in order for the City to then proceed to use existing demolition grant funding to demo the blighted and vacant house on the property. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The house located at Franklin Avenue is in a state of disrepair, and the City has grant funds designated for the use of removing vacant, blighted structures, so I recommend Council's support for accepting the property transfer and the use of dedicated grant funds for the demolition of the house.

Council Actions

Authorize staff to proceed with a quit claim deed property transfer and demolition of the subject house on the property as presented.

Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of April 2013. Overall the City income tax collections are up 3.63% (\$144,880) from April 2012. Kent State University's collections thru the end of April are up 3.87% (\$56,554). (attachment)

2. June Planning Commission Meeting

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the Planning Commission agenda and staff report for the June 4th Planning Commission meeting. There are 3 items up for consideration: 1) City of Kent, proposed Zoning Code text amendment-Chapter1165; 2) City of Kent, proposed Zoning Code text amendment-Chapter1111; and 3) Forest Lakes Development Co., corner of Stone Water and Fairchild, review and approval of final plat. (attachment)

3. Community Development Social Service Funding

Bridget Susel and Dan Morganti provided a memorandum summarizing the 2013 social service funding allocations. Bridget reports that 5 social service funding applications were received requesting a total of \$70,000. The Social Service funding budget was \$70,000 so the funding requests were fully funded for 2013. (attachment)

4. Fire Incident Report

Dave Manthey has provided a copy of the fire and emergency medical services report for April 2013. In 2013 calls for fire service are down 28% (81 calls); fire mutual aid assistance is down 7 events in 2013; and EMS responses are down 1% (13 calls). (attachment)