

March 13, 2014



Unauthorized Items

1. Donation from the American Legion Portage Post #496 (Draft #14 -19)

As a result of the new Kent Parks and Recreation Bingo Program operated by the American Legion Portage Post #496, the American Legion is donating last month's proceeds (\$1,251.64) raised from the bingo games to Kent Parks and Recreation.

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council accept the donation.

Council Action

Authorize acceptance of the donation.

2. Authorization of Acceptance of Police JAG Grant (Draft #14 -20)

Police Chief Lee has requested Council's authorization to accept the JAG-LE grant to be used for increased bike patrols in the amount of \$6,750. This is highly competitive grant category and it is the first time that the City has successfully applied for these funds.

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council authorize the acceptance and appropriation of the grant funds.

Council Action

Authorize acceptance and appropriation of the JAG grant funds.

Information Items

1. Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting

Heather Phile from Community Development has provided a copy of the staff report for the March Board of Zoning Appeals meeting scheduled for March 17th, 2014. There is one item on the agenda: Ellet Sign Co/AWTI, 1005 West Main Street; request for setback and pole height variances. (attachment)

2. Health Department Rental Unit Violations Report

Jeff Neistadt has provided copies of a summary of the violations noted at rental units inspected by the Health Department in 2013. Jeff points out that the small rental units account for a disproportionate share of the violations. (attachment)

3. Mutual Aid Agreements

I wanted to let you know that following Council's authorization to proceed with establishing new mutual aid agreements with our neighboring cities for public service equipment, we have successfully executed agreements with Hudson, Stow, Ravenna, and Twinsburg.

4. Bowman Breakfast

I wanted to remind you that the Bowman Breakfast is scheduled for next Tuesday, March 18th at 7:30 am. The session will feature presentations from Davey Tree, Smithers-Oasis, and Ametek.

Information Items (continued)

5. Bowling Green Visit to Kent

I wanted to let you know that a contingent of representatives from Bowling Green, including the Mayor and some members of City Council, City staff, University staff and local business representatives have asked us to host them for a visit to Kent to learn about our downtown revitalization and town gown relations that have garnered us so many recent awards. The visit is planned for May 13th from 10:30 am to 4 pm. Any or all of you are welcome to join the discussions so mark your calendars. We're working on an agenda and itinerary and once that is finalized I'll be sure to share it with you.

6. Downtown Valet Special Event Permit

The two restaurants in downtown Kent that have received Council's approval to operate valet services on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings have asked for a special exception to allow them to use valet from 2 pm to 5 pm for Sunday, Mother's Day on May 11th, and from 2 pm to 5 pm on Friday, May 9th of KSU graduation weekend. The staff and I have considered their request and since it is only for 2 special event days we decided that rather than changing the policy we would provide a special permit exemption that we can issue administratively. Bridget and I wanted to advise you of this change in advance and if you had any serious concerns we would bring the request before Council for discussion.

7. Planning Commission Meeting

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the Planning Commission agenda and staff report for the March 18th Planning Commission meeting. There is 1 item up for consideration: 1) City of Kent, Zoning Code text amendment to Parks and Recreation fees. (attachment)