

Works Session

1. Interviews For City Boards and Commissions

Council members will have an opportunity to interview candidates for vacancies on City Boards and Commissions.



Land Use Committee

2. Planning Commission Request to Close High Street Sidewalks

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time to review the Planning Commission's recommendation for City Council to consider closing-off the sidewalks on High Street to discourage cut-thru pedestrian activity resulting from the new Lincoln Commons project. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The staff understands the concerns of the neighbors but the staff is not supportive of the request since the community has emphasized the value of promoting more walking in Kent and Council has in turn prioritized pedestrian safety and sidewalk connectivity as a strategic priority.

Council Action

Review and discuss the Planning Commission recommendation.



3. Sunrise Pump Station Easement Vacation

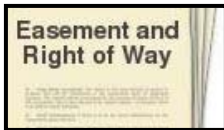
Jen Barone has requested Committee time for Council to consider a request to vacate the waterline easement that was provided when the City operated the sanitary pump station that served the Sunrise Apartment complex. The City no longer operates the pump station and the new owner of the apartment complex plans to build new structures over the easement. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

I recommend Council's support for vacating the easement as presented.

Council Action

Authorize the vacation of the utility easement.



4. Pentapoint Subdivision Variance

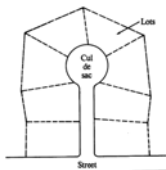
Jen Barone has requested Committee time for Council to consider a request from PentaPoint Ltd. to authorize a variance for PentaPoint to create a new subplot as part of their land transaction with the Edwards Property without having to construct a cul-de-sac as required by the Subdivision Code. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The Planning Commission approved the variance request on August 16, 2011 and I recommend Council's support for the variance as presented.

Council Action

Authorize the subdivision variance for PentaPoint Ltd.





Community Development Committee

5. Main Street Kent Programs Update

Mary Gilbert has requested Committee time to provide City Council with an update on the status of the Main Street Work Program. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

I recommend Council to receive the Main Street Report.

Council Action

Receive the Main Street report.

6. City Wards Reapportionment

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time to review the Ward reapportionment options that Gary Locke had been working on following the last Committee presentation on this topic. The Kent City Charter requires that the Ward modifications (resulting from the updated Census data) be complete by the end of 2011. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The staff has suggested modifications to Wards 3, 4 and 5 to meet the Charter test requirements for Ward population and I would encourage Council's discussion and support for these modifications.

Council Action

Approve and adopt the proposed Ward Reapportionment.



Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

7. City/ODOT/KSU Esplanade Agreement

Jim Bowling has requested Committee time for Council to consider authorization of an ODOT Agreement for the City/KSU esplanade – Portage Hike and Bike Trail connection. This is the project that the City and University received ODOT funding to extend the esplanade from the edge of campus to SR 59 as part of the downtown revitalization efforts. The City is managing the project and Kent State has purchased the property and is paying the local match. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

This is a standard ODOT Agreement template used for projects that receive state funding and I would encourage Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize staff to execute the ODOT Agreement for the Esplanade – Portage Hike and Bike Trail Project.

8. Street Closure Request for the International Festival

Main Street Kent is planning an international festival in downtown Kent. The event is scheduled for September 17th from 1 to 10 pm and includes international foods, music, vendors, games and other cultural entertainment. The street closure is requested for Main Street between Depyester and Water Streets. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's approval of the street closure request as presented.

Council Action

Approve the street closure for Main Street Kent's International Festival as proposed.



Deferred

Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee (continued)

9. Lease With Kent State University for the Esplanade Extension

Jim Bowling has requested Committee time for Council to consider a lease agreement between the City and Kent State University.

Administration Recommendation

Staff has not completed drafting the terms of this lease so we would request that this item be deferred until October.

Council Action

No action at this time.

10. Carter Lumber Sanitary and Storm Sewer Easements

Gene Roberts has requested Committee time to discuss proposed modifications to existing sewer easements that run through the Carter Lumber property at 816 West Main Street. Carter Lumber is in the process of replacing some buildings on their property that are currently located over City sewers. Carter Lumber has offered to provide new perpetual easements for both the sanitary and storm sewer if the City would be willing to offset some of the cost resulting from Carter Lumber relocating the existing shed buildings. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Gene has negotiated a fair deal that seems to satisfy both party's interests and to that end I would encourage Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize staff to proceed with the proposed easement modifications as presented.



Finance Committee

11. 2011 Appropriations Amendments, Transfers & Advances

Dave Coffee has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2011 budget line items and he has prepared the necessary appropriations amendments to reflect the changes needed to balance those line items. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization of the appropriations amendments.

Council Actions

Approve the appropriations amendments as presented.



12. Annual Review of the 5 Year Capital Plan

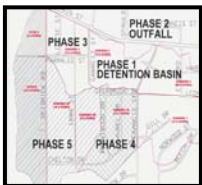
Staff has prepared the draft 2012 Capital Improvement Plan for Council review. The capital plan provides a schedule of projects and financing for 2012 through 2016 based on a prioritization of most critical needs. It is important to remember that the project list is constrained in order to stay within available funding levels. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Review and approve the 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan.

Council Action

Approve the Capital Improvement Plan.





13. Rollover of City Notes

Dave Coffee has reviewed short and long term financing rates and he is recommending the rollover of \$3,848,000 in various purpose notes. The City's financial advisors continue to recommend taking advantage of the short term interest rates by rolling the notes over. Dave also indicates his intention to include an additional \$602,000 in short term debt. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization of the notes rollover as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the short term notes refunding and new debt purchase.

Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of July 2011. Overall the City income tax collections are up 5.21% (\$316,641) from July 2010. Kent State University's collections thru the end of June are up .99% (\$24,527). (attachment)

2. Naming the Portage Hike & Bike Trail

In response to the interest in naming portions of the Portage Hike & Trail in Kent in honor of those that lost their lives serving our country, John Idone has provided a memo outlining his recommendation for which sections of the trail to dedicate for this purpose. Council could refer this item into Committee for discussion in October. (attachment)