

Committee of the Whole

1. Charter Review Preparation Discussion (Council)

The staff have suggested Committee time for Council to review the status of their appointments for the 2025 Charter Review Committee.

Administrative Recommendation

Discuss the status of the identification and selection of prospective candidates to appoint to the 2025 Charter Review Committee.

Council Action

Discuss and direct staff accordingly.

2. Civil Service Commission Recommendations (Kathy)

Kathy has requested Committee time to present a couple of changes approved by the Civil Service Commission for Council's consideration of adoption. The Civil Service Commission met on March 17, 2025, and voted to amend the policy for the duration of how long candidate eligibility lists for hire are good for and to amend the position advertising requirements. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend approval of the recommendations of the Civil Service Commission.

Council Actions

Adopt the recommendations of the Civil Service Commission as presented, with the emergency clause.

3. Codified Ordinance Book Update (Hope)

Hope has asked for Committee time to ask for Council's approval to update the City's Ordinance book to reflect the necessary changes in law that need to be integrated into the City Code. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Receive the staff update and adopt the Ordinance book updates as presented.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and approve the proposed updates to the City's Ordinance book as presented, with the emergency clause.

Community Development Committee

1. Staff Update on the Homeless Warming Center Assistance Project (Bridget)

Bridget has requested Committee time to present an overview of how the new homeless funding was used to improve the transportation and shelter of homeless during the inclement cold weather. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.



Civil Service Commission



Community Development Committee

2. Administrative Variance Request for 1238 West Main Street (Bridget)

Bridget has requested Committee time to present a request for an Administrative Variance related to the sewer connection for the new Klaben Lincoln dealership at 1238 West Main Street. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Bridget has identified a hardship created by the Code for the sanitary sewer connection for the new Lincoln dealership, and she is offering an alternative sewer connection that requires approval as an Administrative Variance. I recommend Council approve the Administrative Variance as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the Administrative Variance for 1238 W. Main Street, with the emergency clause.

Finance Committee

1. 2025 Celebrate Kent Awards (Eric/Bridget)

Bridget and Eric have evaluated the applications that we received for the 2025 Celebrate Kent Grant Awards. Staff have completed their review and established the funding amounts which will be presented to Council for information purposes. The funding has already been approved by Council in the Operating Budget and staff will provide an overview of the planned allocation of the funds in 2025. The Celebrate Kent Grant Awards include \$15,000 for 7 applicants. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

Council Action

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

2. 2025 Social Service Grants (Bridget)

Bridget and Eric have evaluated the applications that we received for the 2025 Social Service Funding Grants. Staff have completed their review and established the funding amounts which will be presented to Council for information purposes. The funding has already been approved by Council in the Operating Budget and staff will provide an overview of the planned allocation of the funds in 2025. The Social Service Grants include \$65,000 for 7 recipients. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

Council Action

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

3. City/KSU MOU for Shared Fire Apparatus Funding (Rhonda, Jamie)

Rhonda has requested Committee time to present a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and KSU which includes a multi-year commitment of funding from Kent State University which will go towards the replacement of Fire Department apparatus, including a new ladder truck. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The City and KSU have been working to secure external funding to supplement local funding needed for the replacement of Fire Safety apparatus that are at the end of their service life. In the new MOU, KSU has agreed to provide annual payments of \$100,000 for 5 years (up to \$500,000) to be used towards the replacement of expiring Fire department apparatus. I urge Council's support for this MOU with KSU.

Council Actions

Authorize the Memorandum of Understanding with KSU outlining financial support of \$100,000/year for five years to be used towards the replacement of critical Fire Department apparatus as presented, with the emergency clause.



Finance Committee (continued)



4. 2025 Budget Appropriations Amendment (Rhonda)

Rhonda has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2025 budget line items and she 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 2025 budget appropriations amendments as presented, with the emergency clause.

5. 2020 West Side Fire Station Operating Levy Renewal (Rhonda)

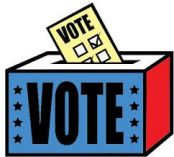
Rhonda has requested Committee time to present her recommendation for Council to authorize the placement of the City's 2020 West Side Fire Station Levy (.73 mil) on the ballot for renewal at the November 2025 election. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The staff is asking to renew the 2020 West Side Fire Operating Levy (.73 mil) that would provide \$268,000 in 2025 to be used to support the West Side Fire Station operating expenses at an average cost of \$13.50 per/year, per \$100,000 in home value. I recommend Council's support to place the levy renewal on the ballot in November 2025.

Council Action

Authorize the placement of the renewal of the West Side Fire Operating Levy (.73 mil) on the November 2025 ballot.



Health and Public Safety Committee

1. Kent Safety Town Declaration of Collective Intent (Jim, Nick, Angela)

The staff and I have been working with representatives from Kent Rotary, Kent City Schools, Kent Junior Mothers, and Kent State University to move forward with the new Kent Safety Town project. The project committee have drafted a "Declaration of Collective Intent" outlining the partners, partner roles, goals and next steps needed to advance the project, and they have asked for Council's formal support of the Declaration of Collection Intent. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Council has previously endorsed the project, and the declaration of collective intent is non-binding but serves as the foundational framework within which the project partners will develop the project. I recommend Council's approval of the Declaration of Collective Intent and authorize the staff to sign the agreement.

Council Actions

Authorize the Declaration of Collective Intent for the new Kent Safety Town Project as presented, with the emergency clause.



Health and Public Safety Committee (continued)

2. New Public Safety Video Technology Contract (Nick)



Chief Shearer has asked for Committee time to present his recommendation to invest in public safety video technology (by contract) that has the capability to track vehicle licenses as they enter and leave the city limits. The technology is in place in our neighboring communities (Ravenna, Stow, Tallmadge) and has proven a useful tool to use in the tracking and pursuit of criminal activities. The technology is not live stream video, it is a continuous recording which is uploaded in a database that can be searched on certain parameters associated with a vehicle. The video does not capture the driver's identity, it only tracks a vehicle by its license plate. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Chief Shearer is proposing to use forfeited/confiscated drug related funds to pay for a 3-year contract for the video technology and I recommend Council's support.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and authorize the Police to execute a contract for the video tracking service as presented, with the emergency clause.

Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

1. Kent JC's Beer Fest Amended Street Closure Request (Eric)

Eric has requested Committee time to present a request from the Kent JC's to change the street closure footprint for the Craft Beer Fest scheduled for May 2025. The modification shifts the event further up N. Water Street, which allows Main Street to remain open for the duration of the event. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Reducing the number of street closures to support downtown events was identified as a goal, particularly keeping Main Street open to traffic, and I recommend Council's support for the proposed amended street closure footprint for the Kent JC's Beer Fest.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed amended street closure request for the Kent JC's Beer Fest as presented, with the emergency clause.

Information Items

1. Monthly Permit and Zoning Reports

Bridget has shared the zoning and permit violations report for October 2024. Permit revenues were \$3,543.48 for the month with the most permits being issued for HVAC Residential. There were 25 code enforcement items for the month. (attachment)

2. Kent Police Statistics

Chief Shearer has provided a copy of the police statistics report for February 2025. The MTD calls for service are down 14.5 % (by 243 calls); traffic citations are down 42.3% (by 80 tickets); accident incidents are up by .3% (by 1 incident) for the month and serious crimes are down by 12 calls, at 1 incident when compared to February of 2024. (attachment)

3. Income Tax Report

Rhonda Hall has provided a summary of income tax collections for February of 2025. Overall, the City income tax collections YTD are up 5.1% (\$150,223) compared with 2024. For February, income tax collections are down 8.2% (\$131,661) from 2024. (attachment)

4. Fire Incident Reports

Chief Samels has provided a copy of the fire and emergency medical services reports for February 2025. The MTD calls for fire service are unchanged (at 103 calls) compared with 2024. Calls for fire mutual aid assistance received MTD is down from 2 to 0 calls for the month in 2025 as compared to 2024; and EMS responses are down 13.6% (by 49 calls) for 2024, compared to MTD 2024. (attachment)

