



Public Hearing

The City Clerk has scheduled 2 public hearings to start the meeting at 7 pm:
1) Proposed Zoning Map Amendment, 2) Proposed DORA Boundary Expansion.

Committee of the Whole

1. Yard Beautification Awards (Dom)

Dom has requested Committee of the Whole time to present the monthly Yard Beautification awards to residents from different neighborhoods in Kent. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

This new awards program is part of an effort to improve neighborhoods in Kent by showcasing the best examples of property maintenance and landscaping.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

2. Staff Updates (Bridget, Joan)

Department Heads have requested a few minutes at the start of the Committee meeting to share brief comments about noteworthy topics in their departments.

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff reports, no action is needed.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

3. KSU Town & Gown Initiatives Update from KSU (Dana)

Dana Lawless-Andric from KSU has asked for a few minutes to provide an update on the status of KSU town and gown initiatives for Council's information.

Administration Recommendation

Receive the informational update.

Council Actions

Receive the informational update, no action is required.

Land Use Committee

1. Proposed Zoning Map Amendment (Bridget)

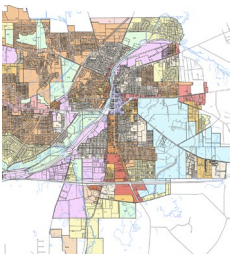
Bridget has requested Committee time to present a request to rezone 2 parcels at 200 West Williams Street (the former Davey Drill site between Mogadore Road and Franklin Avenue) from Industrial to High Density Residential. The property is located in the former rail corridor bounded to the west by industrial and to the east by residential zoned property. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

On August 19th, the Planning Commission unanimously (5-0) voted down the request to change the property Zoning from Industrial to High Density Residential. Bridget will review the details of the rezoning request for Council's consideration.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.



Land Use Committee (continued)

2. Public Art Appeal/Variance Request (Bridget)



Bridget has requested Community Development Committee time to present a request for Council to consider granting a variance from Section 1106.20 of the Zoning Code related to public art displays. The Zoning Code allows public art murals on the "front property line." The Main Street Kent Public Art Advisory Board has requested Council's consideration to allow a mural to be displayed on the corner building at 195 East Erie Street which has 2 "fronts." The mural would face S. Depeyster Street rather than the Erie Street frontage. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Staff have reviewed the request, and we believe the proposed variance is consistent with the intent of the language in the Zoning Code and we recommend Council's approval of the public art variance.

Council Actions

Authorize the public art variance for 195 East Erie Street as presented, with the emergency clause.

3. Stream and Wetland Foundation Land Donation (Angela)

Stream and Wetlands
FOUNDATION

Angela has requested Committee time to present a recommendation for Council to accept a land donation from the Stream and Wetlands Foundation to be dedicated to Kent Parks and Recreation. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council approve acceptance of the land donation from the Stream and Wetland Foundation.

Council Actions

Authorize the acceptance of the land donation from the Stream and Wetlands Foundation to Kent Parks and Recreation as presented, with the emergency clause.

Community Development Committee

1. Kent-Franklin JEDD Income Tax Agreement Renewal/Amendment (Bridget)



Bridget has requested Committee time to present a proposal to amend the Kent-Franklin JEDD Agreement to transition the collection of income taxes for businesses in the JEDD from the City's Finance Department to the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA). The City has been using RITA for income tax collections within the City limits for over a decade, and the JEDD Board members unanimously voted to transfer the tax collection duties to RITA at their meeting on August 12, 2025. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The Kent-Franklin JEDD Agreement is due for renewal and based on the recommendation of staff and the JEDD Board, I recommend Council approve the renewal of the Kent-Franklin JEDD with the proposed amendment to transfer tax collections to RITA.

Council Action

Approve the renewal of the Kent-Franklin JEDD Agreement with the transfer of tax collections to RITA as presented, with the emergency clause.

2. DORA Boundary Expansion Request (Bridget)



Bridget has requested Committee time to present requests received by the Community Development Department to expand the boundaries of the DORA to include the new Black Squirrel Pub located at 802 N. Mantua Street, the River Merchant at 911 N Mantua Street, and Bottles 101 at 115 N. Willow Street. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The staff and I recommend authorizing the DORA boundary expansion request.

Council Action

Authorize the DORA boundary expansion request as presented, with the emergency clause.

Community Development Committee (continued)

2. Community Housing Update (Dave, Bridget)

Bridget and the City Manager have requested Committee time to follow up on recent conversations with Council members regarding housing related project opportunities in Kent. The staff have been working on a couple of housing related initiatives, and they would like to brief Council on those initiatives.

Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff reports, no action is needed.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

Finance Committee

1. Certify Tax Rates and Amounts to Portage County (Rhonda)

Rhonda has requested Council's authorization to submit the City projected 2026 tax rates and amounts to the Portage County Auditor. This is an annual process that is required by Ohio Revised Code, Sections 5705.34 & 5705.35 to be submitted to the County Auditor before October 1st of each year. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

There is no proposed change in the City's tax rates and I recommend Council authorize and certify the tax rates and amounts provided by Rhonda.

Council Action

Authorize and certify the tax rates and amounts for submission to the Portage County Auditor, with the Emergency Clause.

2. 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 2025 appropriations amendments as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the 2025 budget appropriations amendments, with the emergency clause.

Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

1. Request to Correct Ordinance 2024-088 Water Surcharge (Hope)

Hope has requested Committee time to ask Council to amend the language in Ordinance 2024-088 that was approved to extend water services to the Petros Development Group for their Woodland Reserves project on SR43 in Brimfield. The Ordinance incorrectly stated that the property would not be subject to the City's 50% surcharge for water customers outside the City limits and staff is asking Council to correct that error. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The corrected language has been explained to the developer and I recommend Council's approval to correct the Ordinance.

Council Action

Authorize the proposed revision to apply the 50% water surcharge for the Petros Development Group project as presented, with the emergency clause.





Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee (continued)

2. ODOT SR261 Improvement Project Consent Legislation (Jim)

Jim has requested Committee time to request Council's approval of Consent Legislation from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to resurface a portion of SR261 that is located within the City limits. ODOT plans to resurface 1.5 miles of SR261, .28 miles of which is located within Kent. The project includes milling, resurfacing and striping and is projected to be performed by the end of 2026. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

No City funds will be used in the project. I recommend Council approve the Consent Legislation for the ODOT resurfacing of SR261 within the City limits.

Council Action

Authorize the Consent Legislation for the ODOT resurface project on SR261 within the City limits as presented, with the emergency clause.

3. Sunrise Boulevard Rehabilitation Resolution of Intent (Jim)

Jim has requested Committee time to ask for Council's approval of the attached Resolution of Intent for the Sunrise Boulevard Rehabilitation Project. The Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) requires a resolution of intent to receive reimbursements from awarded no interest loans. We received a \$294,500 grant and a \$50,000 no interest loan for the Project. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council approve the Resolution of Intent to receive reimbursement for the eligible Sunrise Boulevard Rehabilitation project costs.

Council Actions

Authorize the Resolution of Intent for the Sunrise Boulevard Rehabilitation as presented, with the emergency clause.

Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Rhonda Hall has provided a summary of income tax collections for July of 2025. Overall, the City income tax collections YTD are up 3.4% (\$373,844) compared with YTD of 2024. For the month of June, the City income tax collections are up 3.5% (\$51,019) compared to 2024. (attachment)

