



Life outside the lines.

Public Hearing

Bridget has requested two public hearings beginning at 7 pm: 1) to receive public comment on the proposed local historic property designation for the Kent Historic Society property (237 East Main Street); and 2) to receive public comment on the application for the placement of farmland in an agricultural district (Kolb Acres property behind Forest Lakes subdivision).

Committee of the Whole

1. Civil Service Commission Candidate(s) Interview (Clerk)

The City Clerk has invited the candidate(s) for the vacant Civil Service Commission positions to interview with Council. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Interview the prospective Board and Commission candidates.

Council Action

Interview the prospective Board and Commission candidates.

2. Staff Updates (Angela, Melanie, Dave)

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

UPDATE



Community Development Committee

1. Request for Local Historic Property Designation (Bridget)

Bridget has requested Committee time to present a request from the Kent Historic Society (237 East Main Street) to designate the KHS building as a local historic property. As a certified local government (CLG), the City is authorized to designate local properties as historic. KHS has filed for the local historic property designation and the City's Design and Preservation Committee met to review the application, and they unanimously recommended Council's support for the local historic designation. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The City staff obtained and maintain their status as a Certified Local Government as a way to expedite local historic property designations and I recommend Council's approval of the requested historic designation as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the local historic designation for the Kent Historic Society property as presented, with the emergency clause.

Community Development Committee (continued)

2. Redevelopment/Acquisition Assistance Agreement (Bridget, Hope)

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Bridget has requested Committee time to present a proposed redevelopment agreement between the City and Copen Machine for the purchase, remediation and redevelopment of the former Davey Drill property at 200 West Williams Street. The agreement establishes the terms for the grant, loan, remediation, restoration, public improvements and private investment and job creation for Copen Machine. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The staff was able to work with Copen Machine and Hometown Bank to develop a partnership project that will remediate the soil, restore historic structures, add new jobs, reduce neighborhood concerns, and expand public parking. I recommend Council's approval of this agreement as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the proposed redevelopment/acquisition agreement with Copen Machine as presented, with the emergency clause.

3. Amendment to Dual-Use Cannabis Dispensary Agreement (Bridget)



Bridget has requested Committee time to present a request from the owner of the Bliss retail marijuana dispensary at 331 East Main Street to change the hours of operation to align with the hours of operation of dispensaries in neighboring communities and in accordance with State law. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

The Development and Police Department staff reviewed the hours change request and with no calls or complaints received for the facility, the staff find no reason to deny the hours change. I recommend Council approve the change in hours as presented.

Council Action

Authorize the staff to amend the dual use cannabis dispensary agreement to change the hours of operation as presented, with the emergency clause.

Land Use Committee



1. Application For Farmland in an Agricultural District (Bridget, Hope)

Bridget has requested Committee time to present an application from the property owner of 100 Johnson Road (Kolb Acres behind Forest Lakes subdivision) to have his property added as farmland in an Agricultural District. There is a specific legal process for consideration of this application and Bridget and Hope will outline the content and process of this request for Council consideration. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Council will need to make a "determination" or ruling on the request, either in support of it, rejecting it, or modifying it. There are specific legal factors that staff will explain during the meeting to aid in Council's determination.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and issue a determination to approve, modify or reject the application in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 929 Regulations.



Finance Committee

1. 2026 Budget Appropriations Amendment (Rhonda)

Rhonda has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2026 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 2026 budget appropriations amendments as presented, with the emergency clause.

Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee



1. North Mantua Street Safe Routes to School Grant Application (Jim)

Jim has requested Committee time to ask for Council's approval to submit an Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) "Safe Routes to School" grant application for \$800,000 in additional funding needed for the North Mantua/Davey Tree Campus/Roosevelt High School/Riverbend traffic safety improvement project. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

Jim has secured \$2.7 million towards the project estimate of \$6.2 million, and I recommend Council authorize the submission of the grant application for \$800,000.

Council Action

Authorize the staff to submit for \$800,000 in ODOT Safe Routes to Schools grant funding for the North Mantua project as presented, with the emergency clause.

Information Items

1. Monthly Permit and Zoning Reports

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the monthly zoning and permit violations report for December 2025. Permit revenues were \$8,847.10 for the month with the most permits being issued for Residential HVAC (19 permits). There were 40 code enforcement items for the month. (attachment)

2. Sustainability Commission Quarterly Newsletter

Julie Morris has provided the Winter 2026 Sustainable Kent Newsletter, per Council request. In addition to Climate Action Plan updates, there will be a variety of sustainability related information in each issue. To sign up for the newsletter, go to the City of Kent website. <https://www.kentohio.gov/business-building-developemtn-sustainabilty-overview/sustainable-kent-e-newsletter/>