



Committee of the Whole

1. Boards and Commission Candidate Interviews (Mayor)

The City Clerk has invited the candidates for vacant City Boards and 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. 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.

3. Staff Updates (Angela, Dave, Nick)

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

Community Development Committee

1. Proposed 2026 CDBG Action Plan (Bridget)

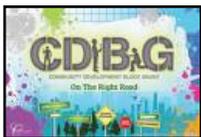
Bridget has requested Committee time to provide an overview of the proposed 2026 CDBG Action Plan. Based on 2025 figures, City staff anticipates receiving \$265,000 in 2026. Six project funding applications were received for 2026 funding amounting to a total request of \$304,000. The staff will present the proposed project allocation of the 2026 funding for Council's information. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The staff will provide an overview of the CDBG projects proposed for 2026, but we are not asking for Council's motion for authorization until May, after the public hearings are held.

Council Action

Receive the staff report, no action at this time.



Community Development Committee (continued)

2. Haymaker Farmer's Market Sub-Lease Renewal (Bridget)

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council to consider the renewal of the City's sublease with the Farmer's Market for the property that the City leases from the railroad along Franklin Avenue for the 2026 season. The sublease has been provided for \$1 per year and Bridget is recommending renewing that sublease again for 2026. (attachment)



Administration Recommendation

The City has historically provided the Farmer's Market with a lease to host the weekly Farmer's Market on the land along Franklin Avenue at a nominal fee (\$1/year) and I recommend Council's support to renew that sublease (contingent upon railroad approval).

Council Action

Authorize the renewal of the sublease for the Farmer's Market, with the emergency clause.

3. Update to City "Flood Damage Control" Section of City Code (Bridget)

Bridget has requested Committee time for Council to consider proposed amendments to Chapter 1337 of Kent City Code, "Flood Damage Control", as required to stay in compliance with recent updates to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood damage control regulations. (attachment)



Administration Recommendation

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) has been working with City staff to develop the updated Ordinance language to conform with the Federal regulatory updates and I recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the proposed amendments to the "Flood Damage Control" section of the City Code as presented, with the emergency clause.

4. 2026 Celebrate Kent Awards (Bridget, Eric)

Bridget and Eric have evaluated the applications that we received for the 2026 Celebrate Kent Grant Awards. Staff have completed their review and established the funding awards 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 2026. The Celebrate Kent Grant Awards include \$15,000 for 10 events from 6 applicants. (attachments)



Administration Recommendation

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

Council Action

Receive the staff report, no action is necessary.

Finance Committee

1. NOPEC Event Sponsorship Grant 2026 (Melanie)

Melanie has requested Committee time to ask Council to accept and allocate the NOPEC Event Sponsorship Grant for \$2,000 which we propose to use in support the 2026 Kent Heritage Festival. (attachment)



Administration Recommendation

The NOPEC Event Sponsorship funds have rotated between Main Street Kent and the Kent Chamber of Commerce in previous years. I recommend Council authorize the funds to be allocated to support the Chamber's Kent Heritage Festival in 2026.

Council Actions

Approve the acceptance of the NOPEC Event Sponsorship Grant funds in the amount of \$2,000 and allocate those funds to be used for the Chamber's Kent Heritage Festival as presented, with the emergency clause.



Finance Committee (continued)

2. NOPEC Energized Community Grant 2026 (Melanie)

Melanie has requested Committee time to ask Council to accept and allocate the NOPEC Energized grant for \$49,965 which we will apply to upcoming energy efficiency projects. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The NOPEC Energized grant funds are required to be used towards projects that enhance energy efficiency and I recommend Council's support.

Council Actions

Approve the acceptance of the NOPEC Energized Grant funds in the amount of \$49,965 and allocate those funds to be used for City energy efficiency projects, with the emergency clause.

3. 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. On-Street Parking Sign Updates on Nathan and Phillips Drive (Melanie)

Melanie has requested Committee time to ask for Council's authorization to align the on-street parking signs with the City's parking Ordinance. The City's Traffic Engineering and Safety committee met to review concerns that the street signage did not match the restrictions listed in the City's Parking Ordinance for Nathan Drive and Phillips Drive. The staff have developed the list of changes that need to be made for the location of the appropriate signage on Nathan and Phillips Drive to conform to the City's Parking Ordinance. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization to update the regulatory parking signs along Nathan and Phillips Drive to conform with the City's Parking Ordinance as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the proposed parking sign changes as presented, with the emergency clause.



Executive Session

Council has been asked to convene in executive session to consider a proposed position description change in the Community Development Department.

Information Items

1. Kent Police Statistics

Chief Shearer has provided a copy of the police statistics report for January 2026. The MTD calls for service are up 7.9% (by 107 calls); traffic citations are up 11.4% (by 13 tickets); accident incidents are down by 19.2% (by 15 incidents) for the month and serious crimes are up by 5 calls, at 7 incidents when compared to 2 in January of 2025. (attachment)