



Democracy Day, Special Council Session

The City Clerk has scheduled the annual "Democracy Day" at 6:00 pm to receive public comments from the public prior to the start of the October Committee meetings. (Kathy)

Committee of the Whole

1. Economic Development Strategy Update (Eric, Bridget, Randall)

Eric has requested Committee of the Whole time to allow the City's economic development consultant to provide Council with an update on the progress of the data collection, interviews, and economic assessment that will serve as a basis for the City's updated Economic Development Strategy.

Administration Recommendation

Receive the update, no action is needed.

Council Actions

Receive the update, no action is necessary.

2. Staff Updates (Jamie, Jim, Melanie)

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

Health & Safety Committee

1. Deer Overpopulation Intervention Options Discussion (Melanie, ODNR)

Melanie has requested Committee time to share her findings from other cities around Ohio that have used various intervention strategies to reduce the impacts of the overpopulation of deer in residential neighborhoods. Staff will work with Council to evaluate the efficacy and costs of local options for reducing the deer population in Kent. The lack of natural predators and abundance of food supply have resulted in the growth of the local deer population, leading to larger numbers of deer in residential neighborhoods. The deer have also become increasingly comfortable being in close proximity to people, venturing up to homes and on patios for feeding. The deer can present safety concerns on area roadways and are causing significant damage to local landscaping. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Review the deer intervention options used by other cities in consideration of a deer population reduction strategy for Kent.

Council Action

Receive the staff report and direct the staff accordingly.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGIC PLAN**

UPDATE



Health & Safety Committee (continued)

2. Wildlife Feeding Discussion (Hope)



Hope has requested Committee time to review the City's current regulations related to feeding wildlife for Council discussion. Staff will work with Council to discuss options for increasing the prohibitions against feeding wildlife in order to reduce the adverse impacts of wildlife in residential neighborhoods. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

There have been an increasing number of complaints received from residents concerning the feeding of small mammals, such as raccoons, skunks, geese, and feral cats. The attraction of food is bringing more of this wildlife in close proximity to residents' homes causing concern for public health and general neighborhood nuisance. Regulating feeding of wildlife could be an opportunity to reduce these concerns.

Council Action

Discuss the wildlife feeding concerns and direct staff accordingly.

3. Noise Ordinance Review and Discussion (Hope)



Hope has requested Committee time to review the city's noise ordinance again as the 120-day trial period for the changes in the hours of the noise restrictions adopted by Council earlier this summer expires in November. There have also been a couple of requests from recipients of noise citations to grant more leniency and those residents have been advised that they could share their concerns during this section of the council meeting while you review the noise ordinance. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The most common noise complaint received from residents is a result of the music emanating from downtown into adjacent neighborhoods, and the changes in the hours was adopted to provide some relief from that source; and I recommend Council make those hours changes permanent. On the request for more leniency from citations resulting from neighbor-to-neighbor noise disputes, the staff is not inclined to support changes in the current noise ordinance, but we'll follow Council's guidance on this matter.

Council Action

Approve the permanent change in hours in the noise ordinance for the downtown as presented, with the emergency clause.

3. Authorization to Submit for Fire Department Grant Funds (Jamie)



Jamie has requested Committee time to ask for Council's approval to apply for a Rural EMS and Dispatch Modernization grant through the Ohio Health Department. The funds would support EMS and Dispatch related equipment purchases estimated to be between \$125,000 and \$150,000. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

There is no local match requirement for this grant, and I recommend Council's authorization to apply, and if approved to accept and allocate the funds.

Council Action

Authorize staff to apply, and if approved accept and allocate Rural EMS and Dispatch Modernization grant funds as presented, with the emergency clause.



Community Development Committee

1. Request to Rescind 2 Klaben Dealership CRA Agreements (Bridget)

Bridget has asked for Committee time to provide an update on the status of the Klaben dealership's Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) agreements for the new Lincoln and Service dealerships. Bridget notes that Klaben has re-evaluated their decision to enter into a CRA agreement for both the Service and Lincoln dealerships and they have requested to cancel those agreements. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

By cancelling the CRAs, Klaben will pay the full taxes on the properties, and I recommend Council agree to terminate the 2 agreements.

Council Actions

Authorize the cancellation of the 2 CRA agreements with Klaben, as presented, with the emergency clause.

Finance Committee

1. City Bank Depository Designation Bid Authorization (Rhonda)

Rhonda has requested Committee time to request Council's authorization to issue the bid for the city's depository banking services. The City typically has agreements with multiple banks for a range of depository banking services and with the impending expiration of the terms for those agreements, it's time to issue bids for the next terms. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council authorization the issuance of a bid for city depository banking services.

Council Action

Authorize the issuance of the bid for city depository banking services as presented, with the emergency clause.



Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

1. New Street Closure Request for "Run the Land" Half Marathon (Eric)

Eric has asked for Committee time to present request for a new running event – "Run the Land" half marathon scheduled for December 2026. The majority of the race will be on the hike and bike trail and campus, but there are a few streets that will be temporarily impacted as the rolling pack of runners crosses city streets. The crossings will be secured using Kent police personnel for participant and vehicular safety. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

A new event of this size, with temporary traffic pauses (not a full street closure), requires Council approval and I recommend Council approve the new event as requested for the "Run the Land" half marathon as presented.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed new event and temporary pauses in street traffic for the "Run the Land" half marathon as presented, with the emergency clause.





Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee (continued)

2. Proposed State Grant Agreement for the N. Mantua Street Project (Jim)

Jim has asked for Committee time to request Council's authorization to approve the proposed grant agreement for Department of Development 629 roadwork funds proposed to be used for the N. Mantua Street project. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Council has approved the N. Mantua Street project and allocated capital funds to the project. The city was approved for State 629 funds in the amount of \$1.12 million and I recommend Council authorize staff to enter into the agreement to secure the funds.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed new ODOD 629 roadway funds grant agreement 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 August 2026. Permit revenues were \$17,976.33 for the month with the most permits being issued for Existing Building Alterations (24 permits). There were 112 code enforcement items for the month. (attachment)