



Committee of the Whole

1. Vacant Board and Commission Candidate(s) Interview (Clerk)

The City Clerk has invited the candidate(s) for the vacant Board 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. Staff Updates (Jim, Bridget, 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. Proposed New Down Payment Assistance Program (Bridget)

Bridget has requested Committee time to present a new Down Payment Assistance (DPA) program. The program would offer up to \$10,000 in down payment assistance to home buyers that would be converting a rental property into an owner-occupied home. The program is proposed to be funded at \$50,000 and would be administered through the Community Development Department on a first come first serve basis and includes an 8-year claw back period. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The new program is being proposed as a way to incentivize the conversion of rental properties and restore a better balance between owner occupied and rental properties in Kent. I recommend Council support the new program on a 1-year trial basis for re-evaluation at the end of the first year or when the funds have been spent.

Council Actions

Approve the new Down Payment Assistance (DPA) program at a funding level of \$50,000 as presented, with the emergency clause.

HOME DOWN PAYMENT
Assistance Program

Community Development Committee (continued)

2. Amendment to the Mazda CRA Agreement (Bridget)



Bridget has requested Committee time to present a proposed amendment to the Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) Agreement with the owners of the Mazda dealership on West Main Street. Changes in the grant agency rules no longer requires an annual (\$500) CRA Agreement fee, and staff is recommending removing the fee language from the current Mazda CRA Agreement. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The CRA is a useful economic development tool and it has helped promote incremental reinvestment in the west side of Kent, particularly at the car dealerships, so I recommend Council's support of the proposed amendment to the agreement.

Council Actions

Approve the proposed amendment to the Community Reinvestment Area agreement with owners of the Mazda dealership as presented, with the emergency clause.

Finance Committee

1. Fire Safety Grant Application (Chief Samels)



Chief Samels has requested Committee time to present a proposal to submit for a Joey D. Foundation grant in the amount of \$25,000 to be used for the purchase of "personal bailout" equipment (e.g., ropes, descenders, training) that would help protect fire safety personnel. (attachments)

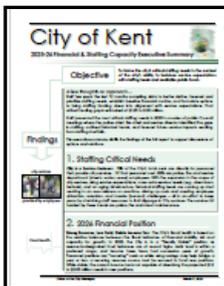
Administration Recommendation

Chief Samels reports that there is no local match required for this \$25,000 grant and I recommend Council approve the submission of the grant, and if approved, allocate the funds as presented.

Council Actions

Authorize the submission of a \$25,000 Joey D. Foundation grant application, and if approved, accept and allocate the funds as presented, with the emergency clause.

2. Discussion of Staffing and Funding Options Report (Rhonda, Dave)



The staff have requested Committee time to review the contents of the "Staffing and Funding Options" report that was distributed to Council members at the March 4th Committee meeting. The report frames the discussion of the critical staffing shortfalls in Police, Fire and Service departments, and outlines options for generating new revenues or redirecting existing revenues to fund the staffing needs. (attachment given to Council at the March 4th Committee meeting)

Administration Recommendation

The staff have been noting staffing deficiencies for the last 3 years and I believe we have developed funding options that could provide a range of funding to correct those deficiencies without increasing residents' taxes. Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.



Finance Committee (continued)

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.

Health & Safety Committee

1. 2026 Portage County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (Chief Samels)

Chief Samels has requested Committee time to present the updated Portage County Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) for Council's approval. Section 322 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000) requires state and local governments to submit a mitigation plan that outlines processes for identifying their respective natural hazards, risks, and vulnerabilities, on a county basis, as a prerequisite to receiving post-disaster Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds. The Portage County 2026 Hazard Mitigation Plan has been developed by the Portage County Emergency Management Agency in cooperation with other county departments, local officials, institutional stakeholders, and the citizens of Portage County. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The 2026 Portage County Hazard Mitigation Plan is complete, and I recommend Council's approval of the plan.

Council Actions

Approve the 2026 Portage County Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented, with the emergency clause.



Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

1. ODOT Transportation Grant Application (Jim)

Jim has requested Committee time to present a proposal to submit for ODOT Transportation Improvement District (TID) funds in the amount of \$500,000 to be used as part of the capital stack needed for the transportation improvement project on the North Mantua street project. The North Mantua project costs are estimated at \$6.2 million, and staff has secured \$2.78 million. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

The North Mantua project is a joint project between the City, Kent City Schools and Davey Tree and I urge Council's approval to submit for the \$500,000 in additional funding.

Council Actions

Authorize the submission of a \$500,000 ODOT TID grant application, and if approved, accept and allocate the funds to the project as presented, with the emergency clause.



Information Items

There are no information items at this time.