



Public Hearing

The City Clerk has scheduled 2 public hearings at the start of the meeting:

1. Proposed Amendments to the City Park Fee Language
2. Proposed 2015 County Tax Budget

Community Development Committee

1. Ohio EPA Update on the Portage County Solid Waste Plan

As the City Council's representative to the Portage County Solid Waste Management District, Councilmember Wallach requested Committee time for the Ohio EPA to update Council on the status of the Portage Solid Waste Plan. The latest version of the proposed plan could significantly impact the City's ability to contract with the Portage County Solid Waste Management District for recycling services. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

The City has a long standing relationship with Portage County Solid Waste for recycling services and the loss of the ability to contract for those services is troubling. At Council's direction the staff have submitted comments to the Ohio EPA expressing the City's concerns for the proposed changes to the Plan. This meeting would give Council an additional opportunity to express the City's concerns to the Ohio EPA directly.

Council Action

Receive the Ohio EPA report and respond accordingly.

2. Proposed LEED Policy Modifications

The staff have requested Committee time for Council to consider re-evaluating the City's adopted policy standards for the construction of new municipal buildings. A couple of years ago Council approved a policy stating that any new City building would be LEED certified. In the course of interviewing architects for the construction of the new Police facility the staff discovered that many municipal buildings are being constructed in accordance with LEED standards but the cities are not spending the added expense of actually going through the LEED certification process.

Administration Recommendation

In order to keep costs down but not sacrificing the desired outcome of an energy efficient building, I recommend Council modifying their policy to construct the building to LEED standards but leave the certification as an option to be determined on a case by case basis.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed LEED policy modifications as presented.



Community Development Committee (continued)

3. Extension of City-ABC Railroad Lease for Parking on Franklin Avenue

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time for Council's approval to renew and extend the City's lease for the use of the ABC Railroad right of way along Franklin Avenue for public parking for a period up to 15 years. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

This area of public parking is critical for handling overflow from the downtown and the Haymaker Farmer's Market, and I strongly recommend Council's support.

Council Action

Authorize the extension of the City's lease with ABC Railroad for parking on Franklin Avenue.

Finance Committee

4. Status of the Civil Service Coordinator Position

The staff have requested Committee time for Council to discuss the option of converting the vacant Civil Service Coordinator position from full time to part time. The members of the Civil Service Commission will be attending the meeting to participate in this discussion. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Based on an analysis of work load, cost savings, and comparisons with other cities, Liz Zorc and I recommend converting the position from full time to part time.

Council Actions

Approve the conversion of the Civil Service Coordinator position from full time to part time status.

5. Rollover of City Notes

Dave Coffee and the City's debt committee have reviewed short and long term financing rates and they are recommending the rollover of \$4,615,000 in various purpose notes. The City's financial advisors continue to recommend taking advantage of the short term interest rates by rolling the notes over, saving an estimated \$138,000 in debt expense. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council's authorization of the notes rollover as presented.

Council Actions

Approve the short term notes rollover as presented.

6. Zoning Code Text Amendment for Park Fee Calculations

Bridget Susel has requested Committee time to present the staff and Planning Commission's recommendations to clarify the language used in the City's Zoning Code that is the basis for calculating the City park fees that are applied to new development projects. (attachment)

Administrative Recommendation

After holding a public hearing and receiving no comments, the Planning Commission voted in favor of amending the language used in the park fee calculations and I recommend Council's approval.

Council Action

Authorize the proposed text amendment to the parking fee language in the City's Code.



Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of May 2014. Overall the City income tax collections are up 4.29% (\$221,138) from May 2013. Kent State University's collections thru the end of May are up 3.95% (\$75,013). (attachment)

2. Monthly Permit and Zoning Reports

Bridget Susel has enclosed copies of the monthly zoning and permit violations report for May 2014. Permit revenues were \$23,337 for the month with the most permits being issued for residential engineering (22 permits). There were 51 code enforcement items in May, most of which were related to overgrown vegetation notices. (attachment)

3. Fire Incident Report

Chief Tosko has provided a copy of the fire and emergency medical services report for April and May 2014. In 2014 calls for fire service are down 1% (3 calls); fire mutual aid assistance is down 5 events in 2014; and EMS responses are down 5% (64 calls). (attachment)