



Health and Safety Committee

1. Lawn Care Notification Requirements

Jeff Neistadt and Jim Silver have requested Committee time to review the status of lawn care notification requirements as referred by City Council. (attachment)



Administration Recommendation

Staff research indicates that State Law already includes the type of advance notification requirements that Council requested be considered for Kent. Jim Silver indicates that Council could try to adopt the State Law locally but he didn't feel it would make the State Law any more or less effective or enforceable. I recommend Council receive the staff report and direct the staff accordingly.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.

2. Ohio Medical Marijuana Law Update



Bridget and Jim Silver have requested Committee time to review the status of recent changes in Ohio law allowing medical marijuana. The new State law would go into effect in September and the State has until October 2017 to develop their rules and regulations for the operation of marijuana businesses in Ohio. Cities can't prevent medical marijuana use but the law does give cities the authority to restrict the cultivators, processors, and retailers from operating in the corporate limits. The State law already prohibits those businesses from being located within 500 feet of a school, church, public library, public playground or public park -- but cities can add greater restrictions. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

A couple of communities in Ohio have passed temporary moratoriums on marijuana based businesses in order to take some time to figure out how to most appropriately locate and regulate these new businesses. I recommend Council receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.

3. Proposed City Fire Prevention Code Updates

Eric Fink and Chief Tosko have requested Committee time to review proposed updates to the City Fire Prevention Code (Chapter 1501, 1502) necessary to ensure the City's Code is up to date with the most current State Fire Code requirements. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council adopt the proposed Fire Prevention Code updates to conform to the latest State Fire Code requirements.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed Fire Prevention Code (Chapter 1501, 1502) updates as presented.



Finance Committee

4. Proposed City Fire Inspection Fee Schedule



Chief Tosko has requested Committee time to propose new fire inspection fees for Council approval. Chief Tosko is asking Council to consider adopting new fees in cases when fire inspections have been performed and upon re-inspection, the required corrective actions have not been completed. The Chief would continue to provide the first inspection and re-inspection for free, but subsequent follow up inspections would be billed at an incremental rate as noted in the Chief's memo. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

In order to ensure better compliance with State Fire Code requirements, and reduce the time burden placed on City Fire Inspectors for repeat offenses, I recommend Council adopt the proposed Fire Prevention fees as proposed.

Council Actions

Authorize the proposed new Fire Inspection fees as presented.

5. 2016 Appropriations Amendments



Dave Coffee has been working with the department heads to reconcile the approved 2016 budget line items and he 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 2016 Budget Appropriations Amendments as presented.

6. Salary Review Committee Recommendations



Council asked for Committee time to review the recommendations of the Salary Review Committee for the Mayor and Members of City Council. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council review the recommendations and direct staff accordingly.

Council Actions

Review the Salary Committee recommendations and direct staff accordingly.

Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

7. Pilot Sidewalk Snow Removal Service Renewal



In 2015, Council authorized \$16,500 to fund the operating costs of a pilot sidewalk snow removal service that targeted the high traffic sidewalks of SR43 and SR 59. In cooperation with the Service Department, the funding was used by Parks and Recreation to hire an extra seasonal worker to operate the newly purchased sidewalk snow blowers during and after snow events. When snow events did not occur, the seasonal employees worked on routine park maintenance. (attachments)

Administration Recommendation

Given the relatively light snowfall in 2015-16, it is difficult to fully assess the effectiveness of the new service. The staff is recommending renewing the pilot at the same operating funding level for another year to better assess its effectiveness under more normal winter conditions, and I recommend Council's support.

Council Actions

Authorize the renewal of the pilot sidewalk snow removal service for 2016-17.

Streets, Sidewalks & Utilities Committee

8. Lincoln Street Temporary Event Closure Request



Bridget has requested Committee time for Council to consider a request from Kent State University to temporarily close Lincoln Street on October 7th, from 2 pm until 5 pm, coinciding with the Grand Opening Ceremony for the new College of Architecture Building. Kent State staff report that they are expecting a large turnout for the grand opening event, and they feel that the safest way to handle all of the non-local foot traffic from people parking at Rockwell Hall and walking to the new Architecture Building is to temporarily close Lincoln Street. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

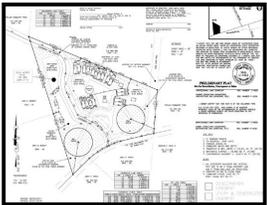
The City's Traffic Engineering and Safety Committee have considered the street closure request and after exploring the various options available to optimize public safety, the staff recommends Council support for the temporary Lincoln street closure.

Council Actions

Authorize the temporary closure of Lincoln Street in support of the Grand Opening Ceremony for the new College of Architecture Building.

Community Development Committee

9. Volunteer City Boards and Commission Policy Guidance



Jim Silver and Bridget have requested Committee time to review the roles and responsibilities of the City's volunteer Boards and Commissions in order to assist Council develop policy guidance to better ensure the alignment of Council's strategic goals with the work of the respective Commissions. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

I recommend Council receive the staff report and instruct the staff on the desired language for the proposed policy guidance statements.

Council Actions

Receive the staff report and direct staff accordingly.

10. Pizza Fire Trex Liquor License Request



Bridget has requested Committee time to review a request from the new Pizza Fire business that will be opening in October on the ground floor of the Avant 220 building at the corner of Haymaker Parkway and Depeyster Street. Pizza Fire is a fast casual dining establishment that specializes in hand-made pizza's to order, similar to Chipolte with Mexican dishes. The owners of the business are seeking Council's approval of a Trex Liquor license request for beer and wine service in the restaurant. The owners are currently in the process of purchasing an available beer and wine liquor permit from another community which can then be transferred into Kent pending Council's consent. (attachment)

Administration Recommendation

Council adopted a set of criteria for Trex license requests, e.g., investment/square foot, type of business, non-transferrable, etc., which Pizza Fire satisfies and I recommend Council's approval of the license request.

Council Actions

Approve the Trex liquor license (beer and wine) request for Pizza Fire as presented.

Information Items

1. Income Tax Report

Dave Coffee has provided a summary of income tax collections thru the end of July 2016. Overall the City income tax collections are down 5.65% (\$502,147) from July 2015. Kent State University's collections thru the end of July are down 11.80% (\$339,922). There are two reasons for these decreases in collections. First, the University withholding missed the settlement deadline and will be included in next month's totals. In addition, the same period last year included a significant windfall from a local employer related single employee benefit transactions. (attachment)

2. Main Street Quarterly Report

Bridget has provided a copy of the second quarter report for Main Street Kent in 2016. So far, Main Street has raised \$68,000 in income in 2016 -- \$52,000 of which is a result of their fund raising events. Heather has also shared an informative summary of the many events that Main Street Kent has sponsored in 2016. (attachment)