



City of Kent
Wednesday, April 20, 2022
Regular City Council Meeting
320 S. Depeyster Street, Kent, OH 44240

MINUTES

At 07:25 PM, Mayor Jerry T. Fiala called the CHIP Public Hearing to order.

Present: Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner

Also Present: Mr. Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor and President of Council; Mr. Dave Ruller, City Manager; Ms. Hope Jones, Law Director; Ms. Bridget Susel, Community Development Director; Mr. Jim Bowling, City Engineer; Ms. Joan Seidel, Health Commissioner; Mr. Nick Shearer, Chief of Police; Mr. Bill Myers, Fire Chief; Ms. Amy Wilkens, Clerk of Council

Absent: Mr. Garret Ferrara, Ms. Tracy Wallach

Ms. Bridget Susel, Community Development Director, opened the public hearing to allow for public comment on the Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) Program. This is the first of two required hearings. There were no comments from the audience.

7:30 P.M. Regular Council Meeting

Present: Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach

Also Present: Mr. Jerry T. Fiala, Mayor and President of Council; Mr. Dave Ruller, City Manager; Ms. Hope Jones, Law Director; Ms. Bridget Susel, Community Development Director; Mr. Jim Bowling, City Engineer; Ms. Joan Seidel, Health Commissioner; Mr. Nick Shearer, Chief of Police; Mr. Bill Myers, Fire Chief; Ms. Amy Wilkens, Clerk of Council

Opening Remarks and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Amrhein, Ward 2 Councilman, opened the meeting and asked that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognizing and Honoring Police Officers

Mr. Nicholas Shearer, Chief of Police, wanted to acknowledge and honor the two police officers who were shot in the line of duty. Officer Kyle Auckland, Officer Lenny Kunka and Officer Matt Butcher were called up to the podium. Chief Shearer thanked City Council for the opportunity to present awards to these officers during the City Council meeting. The incident occurred in January 2021 and he wanted to go through the specifics of the incidents that occurred. Everyone was working remotely at that time (due to the pandemic), so he said it didn't seem fitting or appropriate to remotely honor these officers. He proceeded to go step by step with the incident.

On January 16, 2021, the three officers responded to a call of a burglary in progress on E. Summit St. The caller was a fifteen-year-old female in the house babysitting a one-year-old. A call received in this situation is not uncommon, there is fear sometimes when they are alone in the house. Officer Auckland, Kunka and one other officer were the first on scene. Officer Kunka went to the back of the house and saw an open door and it appeared to have been forced open. He saw a person in the house and immediately began giving verbal commands to them. He risked his life and entered the house to chase the suspect, who turned and fired one round at him. The other officers heard the shot and entered the house when Officer Auckland was shot in the chest. They did not draw their weapons or engage in a gun fight and, using hand to hand techniques, engaged the suspect and took the weapon away and secured him in handcuffs. Officer Auckland was wearing his body armor which protected him against the shot in the chest, but it certainly was an injury. He didn't know during the struggle where he was hit and if the body armor stopped the bullet. Officer Kunka said at the moment they were working to get the situation under control. Officer Butcher was the next officer to arrive and as he was getting out of his car, a gunshot went off, and without hesitation he ran into the house. He came into the situation as a senior officer and took control and calmed everything down. His leadership and guidance were instrumental in the situation. He added that throughout this incident and after, he had not heard any of the officers say "me", "I", or anything. Their primary focus on all of this has been everyone other than themselves- their families, the children in the house and each other. It goes without saying that their actions were heroic on that day and he cannot thank them enough for what they did and the display of everything officers do on a daily basis.

Chief Shearer then presented commendations to each officer, which he handed to each of the three. He stated he also had service ribbons for Officer Auckland and Officer Kunka, one being purple which is similar to the military purple heart. Because they were injured in the line of duty, the first is the Injury Service Award and next is the highest award, the Meritorious Service Award. This award symbolizes the risk of their lives to save the life of someone else. Chief Shearer thanked everyone for the opportunity to recognize the officers tonight and it goes without saying that they deserve recognition. Everyone stood and applauded the officers.

Mayor Fiala asked the Chief if they could introduce any family members present. Officer Kunka introduced his wife to the group and she also received a round of applause. Officer Auckland stated " he was flying solo today". Mayor Fiala thanked them all for their service.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION TO APPROVE MARCH 16, 2022 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MADE BY Mr. Jack Amrhein, **SECONDED** by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg and **CARRIED** by a voice vote of 7-0-2. Mr. Sidoti and Ms. Wallach voted to abstain.

Communications

Public Comment

Clerk of Council, Ms. Amy Wilkens called the first speaker to the microphone, Roberta Ullinger.

Mayor Fiala read the following statement:

"While the law does not require Council to provide time for public comment, we have historically invited the public to make comments and we appreciate their input. This is the time where residents and others can comment on matters that concern them. However, we will not engage in debate, and as President of Council, I reserve the right to end any public communication that is disruptive, embarrassment, harassment or otherwise objectionable. We ask you to give your name and address and limit comments to three (3) minutes."

Roberta Ullinger of Majors Lane, read a prepared statement to Council (**Attachment #1**). Mayor Fiala asked if there was a copy available for the clerk and Roberta handed her a copy.

The next public comment was from J. Michael Fiala of Highland Ave. He is co-owner of Roll Call Burgers and Fries and Tap Root Catering. He wanted to publicly thank the group of city administrators and departments for allowing food truckers to be heard. On April 13th, he attended a meeting to share experiences as a food trucker with City Administrators. He hoped that the meeting was valuable and beneficial to all. He said, though, there is still a lot of work that needs to be done. At this point, he would urge members of Council to act to rescind the Food Truck ordinance that was previously passed, Chapter 744, and allow Chapter 745 to remain in effect until they can get a cohesive ordinance together. He said he had a lot more to say, but with the gravity of the recognition of the officers and what Roberta Ullinger came to talk about, he decided to cut his comments short because he believes those are much more important issues

for the community to consider. He thanked the City Council.

Mr. Doug Fuller of Riveredge Dr, Kent, started his comments by stating he has been an architect for 41 years and is now retired. He was on the Architecture Review Board for the City of Kent for many years. He came before Council to talk about the selection of a consultant to reevaluate and change the Design Guidelines. A directive from the City Council to the Administration was given to hire someone to do this. He wanted to make clear that he is 100% in favor of reviewing those changes that can be improved. The document that was used originally, and not the one that had been modified, was one that had been used for the downtown redevelopment. Good developers like guidelines. Mr. Fuller stated that Dave Ruller was the cornerstone of getting the original guidelines done, saying to the community that something was needed before the redevelopment. Recently, the administration sent out a proposal to ten different companies and received two responses. In his opinion, there was one company that had tremendous experience in this process, and happened to be the team that made the original guidelines. He added that he understands if the City didn't go with them because they wanted a different perspective. Mr Fuller added that the other firm, unfortunately, is an engineering company that has a few architects and stated in their proposal they have made design guidelines, but never really explained them as being architectural. He said they did not have the credentials to do it. In the first line of the RFQ, it says the City is requesting qualifications from consultants with appropriate expertise and experience. He said if you were to look at the proposal that was sent out by CT Consultants, there is nothing in there explaining their experience. He thinks we need an expert and begs them not to hire someone who doesn't have the experience, simply because there were only two proposals. He said there are many other firms in Ohio that can do this work with a lot of experience they can bring to the city and help us. He heard about the firm that has been selected and thinks we would be much better off using someone else. The two proposals were very different, and the one that was chosen is very administration balanced and relies on administration and limits citizen participation in the process. He thinks this town has tons of creative, interesting people that can help. He agrees that the design guidelines need changed and has a list of things that need to be brought to the table. The other proposal submitted is more balanced.. He concluded by stating that no matter who they hire, they choose a group that is willing to work with the citizens of Kent to develop the guidelines. He is looking forward to it and thinks we will learn a lot about ourselves, defining who we are.

Mayor Fiala stated it was his understanding that the contract had already been awarded. Mr. Fuller stated (off mic) that was sad and asked if any of the councilmembers were consulted on the choice. Mayor Fiala said we were not here to debate this tonight.

Written Communication

1. An email was received on March 31, 2022 from Ms. Bridget Susel stating there would be no Board of Zoning Appeals meeting for the month of April and no Planning Commission meeting on April 5, 2022.
2. A NEW C1 Liquor License request from Maggie's Campus Market, LLC located at 901 E. Main Street, Kent, was received on April 1, 2022. Chief Shearer had no objections.
3. A NEW C1 and C2 Liquor License request from Par Mar Oil Company DBA Par Mar Store #181 located at 850 N. Mantua Dr., Kent, was received on April 4, 2022. Chief Shearer had no objections.
4. The agenda for the Standing Rock Cemetery Board's April 14, 2022 meeting was received on April 4, 2022.
5. An email from the Friends of Crooked River about their annual meeting being held on April 19, 2022, was received and forwarded to Council on April 11, 2022.
6. An email from the Portage County Sherriff's Office regarding Portage County 9-1-1 Proposed Plan Changes was received on April 8, 2022.
7. The Planning Commission Agenda and Staff Report for the April 19, 2022 meeting was received on April 12, 2022.
8. The Board of Health February meeting minutes and April Agenda and Statistical report was received on April 13, 2022.

MOTION TO RETURN WITH NO OBJECTION TO THE LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST FOR MAGGIE'S CAMPUS MARKET MADE BY Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO RETURN WITH NO OBJECTION TO THE LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST FOR PAR MAR STORE #181 MADE BY Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

Communications received after the agenda was published was read by Ms. Wilkens:

1. The Parks and Recreation Board Packet for the April 21, 2022 meeting was received on April 15, 2022.
2. An email from Morgan Tipton was received on April 18, 2022, notifying the PARTA Board and City Council that she will not be seeking another term on the PARTA Board, which ends June 30, 2022.

City Manager's Report

MOTION TO APPROVE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT MADE BY Mr. Jack Amrhein, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

1. Request for Council's approval to re-authorize the closure of Franklin Avenue in the "warm weather" months of 2022 (approximately May

- through the first Saturday in October) for outdoor dining, seating and drinking in the DORA. (Draft# 2022-032)
2. Request for Council's approval to re-authorize a contract between the City and Main Street Kent to clean the tables, seating areas, trash, etc. (on Friday- Sunday) on the portion of Franklin Avenue that will be closed during the "warm weather" months of 2022. (Draft# 2022-033)
 3. Chief Myers has asked for Council's approval to accept and allocate a \$50 donation from Mary Kenneley in memory of the members of the Kruger family. (Draft #2022-041)
 4. The Mayor requested Committee of the Whole time in March to receive a presentation from the NAACP regarding a proposed new Commission.
 5. The Mayor has requested Committee of the Whole time for Council to consider applicants for vacancies on City Boards and Commissions.
 6. The City Manager has asked for Committee of the Whole time for Council to receive an update from Dana regarding the status of town gown initiatives.
 7. Mr. Tom Wilke has requested Community Development time for Council to receive the annual report from Main Street Kent for 2021.
 8. Mr. Tom Wilke has requested Community Development time to consider authorizing the continuation of the Enterprise Zone Agreement for Davey Tree.
 9. Ms. Hope Jones has requested Health and Safety Committee time to present the proposed revisions to the Food Cart Ordinance.
 10. Ms. Hope Jones has asked for Health and Safety Committee time to present proposed changes to the City's noise ordinance.
 11. Ms. Joan Seidel has asked for Health and Safety Committee time for Council to consider the renewal of the lease for the PARTA space for the City's Health Department.
 12. Police Chief, Nick Shearer, has asked for Finance Committee time for Council's approval of a body cam grant.

Mr. Ruller pointed out that item number nine is the food cart ordinance coming back to Council and that there have been a lot of conversations. After J. Michael Fiala's meeting with administration another round of emails and revisions were done and he thinks we are getting close to being able to present those to Council next month.

Committee of the Whole

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2022
MADE BY Mr. Michael DeLeone, SECONDED by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg and
CARRIED by a voice vote of 7-0-2. Mr. Sidoti and Ms. Wallach voted 'abstain'.

MOTION TO APPROVE ACTIONS RECOMMENDED MADE BY Mr. Michael DeLeone, SECONDED by Mr. John Kuhar and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

Action(s) Recommended:

1. Authorize the formation of a committee, comprised of five members of the community and up to two councilmembers, to set guidelines and receive submissions from the community on a new city flag, which will be voted on by Council.
2. Authorize forwarding the revised ordinance for the marijuana initiative petition to the County Board of Elections for the November election.

Second Reading of Draft 2022-021 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING REBEKKAH BERRYHILL AND JASON KNOWLES TO THE SHADE TREE COMMISSION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (*Authorized 3/16/22; Second Reading*) was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF Draft 2022-021 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT Draft 2022-021 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Jack Amrhein, Michael DeLeone, Garret Ferrara, John Kuhar, Gwen Rosenberg, Heidi Shaffer Bish, Roger Sidoti, Robin Turner, Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-021 PASSED.

Draft 2022-030 AN ORDINANCE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT OF INITIATIVE PETITIONS PRESENTED BY LAUREN MCKOWN, MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ, RENE MCKOWN, ALEXANDRIA AKIN, AND ADRIENNE DEVAULT TO PLACE THE SENSIBLE MARIJUANA ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO ON THE NOVEMBER 8, 2022 BALLOT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF Draft 2022-030 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg. On Roll Call Voting "Yes": Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT Draft 2022-030 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen

Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-030 PASSED.

Community Development

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2022 MADE BY Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone and CARRIED by a voice vote of 7-0-2. Mr. Sidoti and Ms. Wallach voted 'Abstain'.

MOTION TO APPROVE ACTION RECOMMENDED MADE BY Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

Action(s) Recommended:

1. Authorize the proposed simplified and standardized Parks and Recreation fee calculation for residential development projects.

The Second reading of Draft 2022-022 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO ADJUST THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE CURRENTLY UTILIZED FOR THE CELEBRATE KENT! AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT PROGRAM (NGP) TO SUPPORT MULTI-CULTURAL EVENTS, ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE AWARENESS, INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF Draft 2022-022 MADE by Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT Draft 2022-022 MADE by Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-022 PASSED.

Draft 2022-031 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1191 "PARK IMPACT FEES" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF KENT TO UPDATE OUTDATED LAND VALUATION CALCULATIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF Draft 2022-031 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT Draft 2022-031 MADE by John Kuhar, SECONDED by Gwen Rosenberg. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-031 PASSED.

Draft 2022-032 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO CLOSE FRANKLIN AVENUE FROM ERIE STREET TO MAIN STREET TO ASSIST DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF Draft 2022-032 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, SECONDED by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT Draft 2022-032 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-032 PASSED.

Draft 2022-033 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF KENT, OHIO (CITY) AND MAIN STREET KENT (MSK) FOR NEEDED MAINTENANCE SERVICES TO KEEP THE "OUTDOOR SEATING AREA" ON FRANKLIN AVENUE SANITARY AND ORDERLY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Unauthorized) was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF Draft 2022-033 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, SECONDED by Ms. Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF Draft 2022-033 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, SECONDED by Ms. Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-033 PASSED.

Health & Safety Committee

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2022 MADE BY Mr. Jack Amrhein, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE ACTIONS RECOMMENDED MADE BY Mr. Jack Amrhein, SECONDED by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

Action(s) Recommended:

1. Authorize the acceptance of donations from the owner of the Wells Sherman House to the Kent Health Department.
2. Authorize the acceptance and allocation of \$25,000 received from the Ohio EPA grant funds to be used in the mosquito prevention program.

DRAFT 2022-034 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FOLDING TABLES, FOLDING CHAIRS AND A MONITOR SCREEN ESTIMATED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,500.00 TO THE CITY OF KENT'S HEALTH DEPARTMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-034 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-034 MADE by Ms. Tracy Wallach, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-034 PASSED.

DRAFT 2022-035 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE OHIO EPA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000.00 TO BE USED TO FUND THE MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM THROUGH APRIL 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-035 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Ms. Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-035 MADE by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, SECONDED by Ms. Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-035 PASSED.

Land Use Committee

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2022 MADE BY Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg and CARRIED by a voice vote of 7-0-2. Mr. Sidoti and Ms. Wallach voted to 'Abstain'.

MOTION TO APPROVE ACTION RECOMMENDED MADE BY Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

Action(s) Recommended:

1. Authorize the annexation agreement between the Franklin Township and the City of Kent on State Rt. 43, annexing land into the corporate limits of Kent in order to be eligible for City services.

DRAFT 2022-036 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO SIGN AN ANNEXATION AGREEMENT WITH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP AS PART OF THE ANNEXATION OF PARCEL NO. 12-049-00-00-012-000 (6700 STATE ROUTE 43) INTO THE CITY'S JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-036 MADE by Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Ms. Gwen Rosenberg. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin

Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-036 MADE by Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Mr. Roger Sidoti. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-036 PASSED.

Streets, Sidewalks and Utilities

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2022 MADE BY Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone and CARRIED by a voice vote of 7-0-2. Mr. Sidoti and Ms. Wallach voted to 'Abstain'.

MOTION TO APPROVE ACTION RECOMMENDED MADE BY Mr. Michael DeLeone, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

Action(s) Recommended:

1. Authorize the proposed street closure changes for the May 21st Jaycees Craft Beer Festival.

Second Reading of DRAFT 2022-024 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPROVE A NEW SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION FOR MAIN STREET KENT ART & WINE FESTIVAL FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (*Authorized 3/16/22; Second Reading*) was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-024 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-024 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-024 PASSED.

Second reading of DRAFT 2022-025 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE WATER TAP-IN FOR THE HUMAN BEAN LOCATED AT 1713 EAST MAIN STREET/STATE ROUTE 59, OUTSIDE THE CITY OF KENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY(*Authorized 3/16/22; Second Reading*) was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-025 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, **SECONDED** by Ms. Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion **CARRIED** by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-025 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, **SECONDED** by Ms. Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion **CARRIED** by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-025 PASSED.

DRAFT 2022-037 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPROVE A NEW SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION FROM THE KENT JAYCEES KNOWN AS "KENT CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL" TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022, AND THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF NORTH WATER STREET BETWEEN MAIN STREET AND PORTAGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-037 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, **SECONDED** by Ms. Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion **CARRIED** by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-037 MADE by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, **SECONDED** by Mr. Roger Sidoti. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion **CARRIED** by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-037 PASSED.

Finance Committee

MOTION TO APPROVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 2022 MADE BY Mr. Michael DeLeone, **SECONDED** by Mr. Garret Ferrara and

CARRIED by a voice vote of 7-0-2. Mr. Sidoti and Ms. Wallach voted 'Abstain'.

MOTION TO APPROVE ACTIONS RECOMMEND MADE BY Mr. Michael DeLeone, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

Action(s) Recommended

1. Accept the NOPEC Energized Community Grant for \$47,861 and allocate funds for future energy upgrades.
2. Authorize the disposal of 13 Panasonic Tough Book Police Computers that are no longer compatible with the City's network.
3. Authorize the application for RAISE (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity) grant funds for the East Main Street improvement project of \$5.25 million and to accept and allocate funds if awarded.

Second Reading of DRAFT 2022-026 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE BY INTERNET AUCTION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES PURSUANT TO SECTION 721.15 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (*Authorized 3/16/22; Second Reading*) was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-026 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-026 MADE by Tracy Wallach, SECONDED by Garret Ferrara. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-026 PASSED.

Second Reading of DRAFT 2022-029 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$875.00 TO THE CITY OF KENT PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO BE USED FOR CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (*Authorized 3/16/22; Second Reading*) was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-029 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr.

John Kuhar, Ms.Gwen Rosenberg, Ms.Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms.Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-029 MADE by Mr. Michael DeLeone, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms.Gwen Rosenberg, Ms.Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms.Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-029 PASSED.

DRAFT 2022-038 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ACCEPT THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,681.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-038 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms.Gwen Rosenberg, Ms.Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms.Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-038 MADE by Ms.Heidi Shaffer Bish, SECONDED by Ms. Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms.Gwen Rosenberg, Ms.Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms.Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-038 PASSED.

DRAFT 2022-039 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE TO DISPOSE OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S OLD MOBILE DATA TERMINALS ON THE BASIS THAT THEY ARE NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE OPERATING SYSTEM, ARE NOT NEEDED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-039 MADE by Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms.Gwen Rosenberg, Ms.Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms.Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-039 MADE by Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr.

Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-039 PASSED.

DRAFT 2022-040 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF KENT TO SUBMIT A FUNDING APPLICATION FOR A REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY (RAISE) FEDERAL GRANT TOTALING \$5.25 MILLION, AND TO ACCEPT THE GRANT, IF AWARDED, WITH CORRESPONDING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE EAST MAIN STREET AREA IMPROVEMENTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF DRAFT 2022-040 MADE by Mr. Michael DeLeone, SECONDED by Ms. Tracy Wallach. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT DRAFT 2022-040 MADE by Mr. John Kuhar, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-040 PASSED.

Draft 2022-041 AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50.00 TO THE CITY OF KENT FIRE DEPARTMENT IN MEMORY OF JO KRUGER AND THE KRUGER FAMILY INCLUDING GLEN KRUGER, JR, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY was read by title only by Clerk Wilkens per Mayor Fiala's request.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE THREE READINGS OF Draft 2022-041 MADE by Mr. Garret Ferrara, SECONDED by Mr. Michael DeLeone. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

MOTION TO ADOPT Draft 2022-041 MADE by Michael DeLeone, SECONDED by Garret Ferrara. On Roll Call Voting "Yes" Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mr. Michael DeLeone, Mr. Garret Ferrara, Mr. John Kuhar, Ms. Gwen Rosenberg, Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish, Mr. Roger Sidoti, Mr. Robin Turner, Ms. Tracy Wallach. The motion CARRIED by a roll call vote of 9-0-0.

ORDINANCE 2022-041 PASSED.

Unfinished Business

NONE

New Business

Ms. Wallach stated she would like to be the second council member on the flag committee. She states she has an art background and this would be appropriate.

MOTION TO APPROVE NEW BUSINESS MADE BY Ms. Tracy Wallach, SECONDED by Mr. Garret Ferrara and CARRIED by a voice vote of 9-0-0.

Ms. Rosenberg thanked Roberta Ullinger for the excellent letter that was read to Council this evening. She said it was wonderful and if she could have everyone sign it and send it to the statehouse, she would. She agreed with everything that was said and wanted to make a motion that, as a Council, that we send it to Committee to discuss. Ms. Shaffer Bish said "Second". Ms. Roseberg continued speaking by saying an alternative would be to vote now and draft a letter instead of sending it for discussion.

MOTION THAT COUNCIL DRAFT A LETTER USING ROBERTA ULLINGER'S WORDS TO GO TO THE STATEHOUSE TO VOICE CONCERN ABOUT HOUSE BILL 616 AND 454 AND A RESOLUTION TO BE DONE IN MAY made by Ms. Rosenberg and SECONDED by Ms. Heidi Shaffer and CARRIED by a voice vote of 7-0-2. Mr. Kuhar and Mr. Ferrara voted to abstain.

Mr. Ruller interjected that he'd be happy to draft a letter based on the vote tonight, but if Council wanted an official resolution, that would have to wait until the Council meeting in May.

Ms. Rosenberg said we had a resident making a great case for a resolution, so she said she thinks we can do both. She thanked Roberta Ullinger for bringing this to Council's attention and for coming to the meeting and clearly stating why it is such bad legislation and that we should demand better from our state legislators. She said "thank you very, very much".

Ms. Shaffer Bish said she thinks this legislation is very distressing and it's offensive to the citizens of Kent and what we stand for, she believes.

Mr. Sidoti stated he is troubled by the legislation and has a history of government teaching and the ability to deny the history that has occurred in our country, undermines what this community stands for and undermines our whole country. This bill would allow people to deny that slavery existed, and deny that the Civil War happened. It would allow history teachers to be brought up to some kind of panel to say they are teaching something that is not acceptable. He finds it appalling that this would even be done. He added that as far as the issue of LGBTQ, he believes the bulk of the community do not

care who anyone sleeps with, how you identify yourself, what color you are or your religious beliefs. They care about how you treat other people, are you a good person. He said that is all that should count in this community and it really doesn't matter. His vote is going to be steeped in his personal belief that we should tell the state legislature that we do not stand for that. He does not stand for this and will send a personal letter too. We have to take a step back and put all politics aside and realize what is going on in terms of taking truth out of the ability to teach and educate and let kids draw their own conclusions. He concluded by asking not to take this out of the hands of teachers and helping young people.

Ms. Wallach said she saw a flier being passed around the Kent State campus against the bill. She hopes a lot of students get involved in the next election cycle this November.

Mr. Kuhar asked if this is a bill that has already been passed and is going to the voters. Mr. Sidoti said it was still in committee. Roberta Ullinger stated (off mic) that HB 454 is in committee and HB 616 has not yet been assigned.

Mr. Amrhein said he is very concerned we are taking giant steps backward in this country and will support the motion.

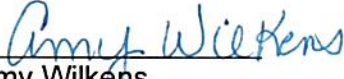
Mr. Kuhar said he has not read either of these house bills and is hesitant to vote on something he has not read.

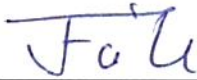
Councilmembers' Comments

Mr. Ferrara wanted to take a moment to say how fortunate we are to have such professional safety forces, both Fire and Police, in light of what we saw tonight and the standards they uphold. If you go back and look at the time in which the incident happened and the public outcry about defending the police and police brutality, and here we are with three Caucasian police officers coming to the rescue of two African American women and being shot by an African American suspect, and race was never an issue. He thinks that is a testament to people in the community and whether you are a good person or not, but the fact is that our police did their job in a most professional manner and thank goodness everybody was safe. We are very fortunate to have such qualified police staff. This is a perfect example as to why you should not defund the police.

Mayor's Report NO REPORT

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.


Amy Wilkens
Clerk of Council


Jerry T. Fiala
Mayor & President of Council

Mayor Fiala, members of council, and Mr Ruller,

Thank you for giving me the time to speak this evening. I'm sure that you have heard of the terrible legislation that has been introduced in the State Legislature, targeting the LGBTQ and African American communities. I am here this evening to urge you to pass a resolution condemning these terrible bills and pass it on to Speaker of the House Cupp, Representative Pavliga, and Governor DeWine.

I'm speaking about 2 pieces of legislation, HB 454 and HB 616. HB 454 would make it illegal for physicians, psychologists, or any health care providers to administer gender affirming care to transgender youth. Not only is this a major overreach of government that would interfere with the relationship between healthcare providers, parents and their children, taking medical decisions out of the realm of medical professionals and parents, but would put the health and well-being of hundreds of transgender children at risk, many right here in our community. This is not experimental medicine as is claimed in the bill, but rather is scientifically and time proven medical care.

HB 616 would take control of decisions about curriculum away from local school boards and severely limit what teachers can and cannot teach our children. It is exceedingly vague and has the potential to censor any mention of race, sexual orientation, or gender identity. This bill is so vague that it is conceivable that my granddaughter may not be allowed to talk about her 2 grandmothers or invite us to grandparents breakfast as my kids did for their grandparents. And, would I be allowed to continue volunteering at the middle school, as I have since that school was built? This year my tech team at Stanton had 6 students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. At the beginning of this year's first production, three of them introduced themselves using gender neutral pronouns. It's difficult to even imagine the ramifications of this poorly worded and vaguely written bill.

I cannot believe that either of these pieces of legislation reflects the morals of the citizens of Ohio. I know that they do not reflect how we feel in Kent, and would not be supported by a vast majority of our residents. I urge you to pass a resolution condemning these pieces of legislation.

I thank you for your attention, and make myself available to answer any questions.