



City of Kent
Wednesday, February 21, 2024
Regular City Council Meeting
320 S. Depeyster Street, Kent, OH 44240

AGENDA

7:25 P.M. CDBG Public Hearing

1. On February 7, 2024 notice was given that the Kent City Council was conducting a Public Hearing to allow for public comment on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Year (PY) 2024 Action Plan.

Board of Control & Regular Council Meeting Immediately Following Public Hearing

1. Roll Call
2. Opening Remarks and Pledge of Allegiance- Jack Amrhein, Ward 2 Councilperson
3. Introducing New Fire Chief and Fire Employee Promotions and New Hires
4. Approval of Minutes
 - 4.1. January 17, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes
5. Communications
 - 5.1. Public Comment- Anyone wishing to address Council must submit their written comments to the Clerk of Council at councilclerk@kentohio.gov by 4:30 p.m. on the meeting day. If also requesting to speak at the meeting, comments are limited to three (3) minutes.
 - 5.2. Written Communication (All placed on file in the Clerk of Council's office)
 - Email from Dustin A. Holfinger State Government Relations Director for the American Heart Association regarding the Ohio Senate's vote to override Governor Dewine's veto of tobacco preemption was received and forwarded to Council on February 2, 2024.
 - Planning Commission application for Kenneth Crookston was received on January 22, 2024, and an interview has been scheduled with City Council during the March Committee meeting.
 - An email from the Ohio Ethics Commission with a reminder to elected officials to file a financial disclosure statement was received and forwarded to Council on January 25, 2024.
 - The Standing Rock Cemetery Board of Trustees January Meeting Minutes and February 8, 2024 Meeting Agenda were received on February 6, 2024.

- The Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Agenda for February 15, 2024 and January meeting minutes was received on February 9, 2024.
- The Health Board Agenda for it's meeting on February 13, 2024 and the January minutes and statistical report was received on February 9, 2024.
- Letter from Portage County Board of Commissioners was received on February 14, 2024 and forwarded to Council regarding an initiative titled "Coffee with Commissioners" being held on Tuesday February 27, 2024.
- The Civil Service Commission meeting agenda for February 26, 2024 was received on February 14, 2024.
- Three applications for the Board of Zoning Appeals and one application for the Planning Commission were received. Interviews will be scheduled during the March 6, 2024 Committee Meeting and appointments made at the March Regular Council Meeting.

5.3. City Manager's Report

6. Standing Committees & Legislation

Committee of the Whole Chair Mayor Fiala/ Vice-Chair Amrhein

6.1.1. February 7, 2024 Committee Meeting Minute Approval

6.1.2. Action(s) Recommended

1. Approve the proposed updates to the City's Ordinance book, with the emergency clause.

6.1.3. **DRAFT 2024-011** AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE CITY OF KENT CODIFIED ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Authorized)

6.2. **Community Development** Chair Rosenberg/ Vice-Chair Clapper

6.2.1. February 7, 2024 Committee Meeting Minute Approval

6.2.2. Action(s) Recommended

1. Approve two sign variances, as presented, with an emergency clause.
2. Disband the Architecture Review Board

6.2.3. **DRAFT 2024-012** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE STAFF OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT TO ADMINISTER THE REVIEW OF ZONING AND BUILDING PERMITS IN THE OVERLAY DISTRICT WHILE THE CITY TRANSITIONS TO THE NEW DESIGN GUIDELINES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Authorized)

6.3. **Streets, Sidewalks and Utilities** Chair Sidoti/ Vice-Chair Clapper

6.3.1. February 7, 2024 Committee Meeting Minute Approval

6.3.2. Action(s) Recommended

1. Authorize the changes in the street closure for the Craft Beer Festival, with the emergency clause.
2. Approve the Kent/Akron Lake Rockweel Trail agreement, with the emergency clause.
3. Approve the East Main Street Project Right of Way acquisition and authorize staff to manage future East Main Street Project Right of Way purchases administratively, with the emergency clause.

6.3.3. **DRAFT 2024-013** 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 18, 2024, AND THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF NORTH WATER STREET BETWEEN MAIN STREET AND PORTAGE, AND MAIN STREET BETWEEN GOUGLER AND WATER STREET AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Authorized)

6.3.4. **DRAFT 2024-014** AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO, BUYING AN INTEREST IN 0.153 ACRES OF REAL PROPERTY FROM THE MOST REVEREND DAVID J. BONNAR, BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF YOUNGSTOWN, AND WITH THE CITY OBTAINING A TEMPORARY EASEMENT, FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PURPOSE, TO INSTALL, CONSTRUCT AND RECONSTRUCT THE ROADWAY FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS EAST MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Authorized)

6.3.5. **DRAFT 2024-015** AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN SLIGHTLY TOASTED, LLC, AND THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO, WITH THE CITY OBTAINING A TEMPORARY EASEMENT, FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PURPOSE, TO INSTALL, CONSTRUCT AND RECONSTRUCT THE ROADWAY FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS EAST MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FROM SLIGHTLY TOASTED, LLC; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Authorized)

6.4. **Finance Committee** Chair DeLeone/ Vice-Chair Celko

6.4.1. February 7, 2024 Committee Meeting Minute Approval

6.4.2. Action(s) Recommended

1. Approve the proposed sub-recipient grant agreement and if the grant is approved, authorize the demo of the outdated building

located at 331 Elm Street and 266 N. Water Street as presented, with the emergency clause.

2. Approve the 2024 budget appropriation amendments, with the emergency clause.

- 6.4.3. **DRAFT 2024-016** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER, OR HIS DESIGNEE, TO SUBMIT THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO THE PORTAGE COUNTY LAND REVITALIZATION CORPORATION (PCLRC) TO SECURE DEMOLITION FUNDING ASSISTANCE PRIOR TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (ODOD) PROGRAM SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND ENTER INTO A SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH PCLRC; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Authorized)
- 6.4.4. **DRAFT 2024-017** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2023-97, THE CURRENT APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE, PASSED DECEMBER 20, 2023; SO AS TO ADJUST APPROPRIATIONS, TRANSFERS AND ADVANCES FROM THE VARIOUS FUNDS OF THE CITY OF KENT TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES OF THE CITY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Authorized)
- 6.4.5. **DRAFT 2024-018** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) 2024 COMMUNITY EVENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,000.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Unauthorized)
- 6.4.6. **DRAFT 2024-019** 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 \$48,800.00 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Unauthorized)
- 6.4.7. **DRAFT 2024-020** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF KENT TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION REQUEST FOR \$15,000 TO THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM GRANT) AND TO ACCEPT THE GRANT, IF AWARDED, AND EXECUTE THE SUBSEQUENT GRANT AGREEMENT WITH CORRESPONDING APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY (Unauthorized)

7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business
9. Councilmembers' Comments
10. Mayor's Report
11. Executive Session

- 11.1. Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action

Adjourn

Any person who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or a modification of policies and procedures to participate in any City or City Council public meeting or event should contact the Clerk of Council at 330-676-7555 or councilclerk@kent-ohio.org. Any request for auxiliary aid or other accommodation should be made as soon as possible, but no later than forty-eight hours prior to the event.