



City of Kent

Special City Council Meeting with Franklin Township Trustees

319 S. Water Street, Kent, Ohio 44240

May 6, 2026

MINUTES

At 6:47pm, Mayor Jack Amrhein called the Special City Council meeting to order.

Present: Ms. Melissa Celko; Mr. Jeff Clapper; Mr. Eric Dreger; Ms. Heidi Shaffer Bish; Ms. Tracy Wallach; Ms. Kellie Kapusta; Mr. Glenn Russell

Also Present: Mr. Jack Amrhein, Mayor and President of Council; Ms. Kathy Coleman, Clerk of Council; Mr. Dave Ruller, City Manager; Ms. Hope Jones, Law Director; Mr. Jamie Samels, Fire Chief; Mr. Jim Bowling, City Engineer; Dominique Bollenbacher, Community Outreach Coordinator; Ms. Bridget Susel, Community Development Director; Ms. Rhonda Hall, Finance Director; Ms. Angela Manley, Parks & Recreation Director; Ms. Melanie Baker, Service Director; Mr. Jordan Snyder, IT Technician; Ms. Jalessa Caples, Acting Health Commissioner

Motion to excuse Mr. Hook, Mr. Tipton, Mr. Turner, Ms. Wesley, and Mr. Swan was made by Mr. Clapper, seconded by Ms. Shaffer Bish, and carried by unanimous voice vote.

1. DISCUSSION

Ms. Kapusta reported that a recent audit revealed that the document outlining the City and Franklin Township's financial responsibility for Standing Rock Cemetery could not be located. She requested that the City and Township meet to address this issue.

2. SET TAX RATE FOR SUPPORT OF STANDING ROCK CEMETERAY

MOTION TO APPROVE DRAFT 2026-39 SETTING TAX RATE AT .60 MILS FOR SUPPORT OF STANDING ROCK CEMETERY was made by Mr. Clapper, seconded by Ms. Celko and passed **FIRST READING** by unanimous roll call vote: Ms. Celko, yes; Mr. Clapper, yes; Mr. Dreger, yes; Ms. Shaffer Bish, yes; Ms. Wallach, yes; Ms. Kapusta, yes; Mr. Russell, yes.

DRAFT 2026-39 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP AND THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO, PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 759.34 DETERMINING THAT THE RATE OF TAXES TO BE LEVIED UPON ALL THE TAXABLE PROPERTY OF SAID MUNICIPALITY AND SAID TOWNSHIP FOR CEMETERY PURPOSES FOR THE TAX YEAR OF 2026 SHALL BE AND HEREBY IS FIXED IN

AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO .60 MILLS FOR THE CITY OF KENT AND .60 MILLS FOR FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

3. APPOINTMENT OF FRANKLIN TWP TRUSTEE TO STANDING ROCK CEMETERY BOARD

- **MOTION TO NOMINATE GLENN RUSSELL TO SERVE ON THE STANDING ROCK CEMETERY BOARD FOR TERM 1/1/27 TO 12/31/29** was made by Ms. Kapusta, seconded by Ms. Celko, and carried *ON FIRST READING* by unanimous voice vote.
- **MOTION TO INSERT NAME INTO DRAFT 2026-40** was made by Ms. Kapusta, seconded by Mr. Clapper, and carried *ON FIRST READING* by unanimous voice vote.
- **MOTION TO APPROVE DRAFT 2026-40 APPOINTING FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE GLENN RUSSELL TO SERVE ON STANDING ROCK CEMETERY BOARD FOR TERM 1/1/27 TO 12/31/29** was made by Ms. Shaffer Bish, seconded by Ms. Wallach, and carried *ON FIRST READING* by unanimous roll call vote: Ms. Celko, yes; Mr. Clapper, yes; Mr. Dreger, yes; Ms. Shaffer Bish, yes; Ms. Wallach, yes; Ms. Kapusta, yes; Mr. Russell, yes.

DRAFT 2026-40 A JOINT RESOLUTION APPOINTING GLENN RUSSELL, A FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE, TO THE STANDING ROCK CEMETERY BOARD OF TRUSTEES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 759.36, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2029, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

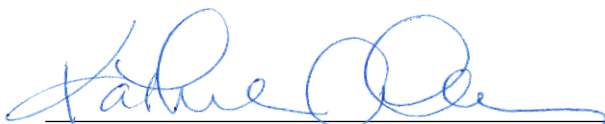
4. APPROVE COST OF LIVING INCREASES TO SALARY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES

MOTION TO APPROVE DRAFT 2026-41 GRANTING COST OF LIVING INCREASES TO SALARY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES was made by Ms. Wallach, seconded by Mr. Clapper, and carried *ON FIRST READING* by unanimous roll call vote: Ms. Celko, yes; Mr. Clapper, yes; Mr. Dreger, yes; Ms. Shaffer Bish, yes; Ms. Wallach, yes; Ms. Kapusta, yes; Mr. Russell, yes.

DRAFT 2026-41 A JOINT RESOLUTION GRANTING SALARY AND HOURLY PAY RAISES TO THE PERSONNEL OF THE STANDING ROCK CEMETERY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.



Kathleen Coleman
Clerk of Council

Jack Amrhein
Mayor and President of Council