Unauthorized Items

1. Donation From Kent Jaycees
Council is being asked to authorize the acceptance of a $500 donation from the Kent Jaycees for the purchase and training of a new Police K-9 dog.

Administration Recommendation
Accept the donation.

Council Action
Authorize the acceptance of the donation.

2. County Property Tax Rates
Each year, the City must pass a resolution accepting the property tax rates as determined by the Portage County Budget Commission. Barb and Linda have prepared the necessary resolution for submission to the County. I’ve attached a copy of the draft resolution that includes the millage and levy schedule for your reference. The schedule merely reflects what has already been approved by Council and the voters in Kent.

Administration Recommendation
I recommend Council’s adoption of the resolution for submission to the County.

Council Action
Adopt the resolution.

Information Items

1. Proposed Income Tax Credit Ballot Issue
I wanted to advise Council that as staff begin to take the steps necessary to put the reduction in the city’s income tax credit on the ballot, we were informed that this was not an item that was authorized by the state as a ballot issue, which meant that the citizen vote would not be binding - it would only be considered “advisory” to whatever future action Council may choose to take. In addition, the legal staff advised that it did not appear that there will be enough time to pass this resolution and file the necessary paperwork to get the advisory issue on the ballot for this November. I just wanted to be sure you knew that if this resolution passes, it will not go before the voters until 2008.

2. Proposed Vehicle License Fee Change
In following up on the Council’s vote in Committee to raise the vehicle license fee by $5 a year, staff has been advised that changes to the motor vehicle registration fees must be made no later than July 1 in order to go into effect by January 1 of the next year - which means if Council passes this fee change I now, it will not go into effect until January 2009.
Information Items

3. Driveway Variance For 688 Stone Water Drive
Community Development and Engineering staff requested my authorization for a variance at 688 Stone Water Drive that would allow a driveway to be constructed with less than the standard 50’ distance from an intersection. After reviewing their recommendation, I have approved the variance request per KCO 1339.09, and I have attached a copy of the request for your information. (attachment)

4. Procex Plant
Given the recent high humidity and barometric conditions, staff received a couple of odor complaints from a resident along Middlebury Road. I wanted to let you know that Mr. Ferlito responded immediately to the call but he did not observe the same odor conditions as the property owner. John advised me that he called the Akron Air Quality staff and they informed him that they had recently arranged for EPA staff to review this case and they also sent a letter to the Procex plant in July asking the company to look at ways that they might be able to improve their air flow capture through the main stack and scrubber system in order to reduce the possibility of emissions through the lower level vents of the building which might contribute to odor problems. As you may recall, Akron Air Quality performed stack tests last year at the Procex plant which did not find any regulatory violations. John is working with Akron Air Quality to explore the possibility of adding an air monitoring station at the City Public Service complex to help provide more air quality data.

5. Board of Zoning Appeals
Heather Phile has provided an agenda and staff report for the upcoming August 20, 2007 Board of Zoning Appeals meeting. There are 2 cases coming before the Board (lot size on Burns court), (1065 Mason Avenue, ABC Landscaping). (attachment)

6. Monthly Permit and Zoning Staff Report
Gary Locke has enclosed a copy of the monthly zoning and permit violations report thru July 31, 2007. You will note in his report that city building permits are down 1% from last year, with associated fees down 13%. The declines are consistent with declines nationally and regionally in new housing starts. (attachment)

7. Portage County Veterans Memorial
I wanted to let you know that Portage County has been soliciting donations to build a veterans memorial honoring the many people in Portage County that have served their country in the armed services. Staff is not authorized to make donations, but I have advised the County that I’ll be sure City Council is aware of this opportunity for the next Council meeting so if you wish to have make a contribution you will have time to do so.