



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Note: Commissioners Carol Gault and Sandra Wilson were unable to attend this meeting.

2015 Recreational Trails Program Grant Award

The Paducah Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance accepting the 2015 Recreational Trails grant award in the amount of \$68,095. The City authorized applying for this grant in March 2015. The funds will be used to construct a 1/3 mile walking trail at the Fountain Avenue Health Park. The grant requires a 50% match which will be provided through the previously-awarded Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky grant.

At this time the City is waiting on federal approval for environmental documents as required by a previously-awarded Land and Water Conservation Fund grant. Once approved, the park project will be placed out to bid with a three-month construction window.

The park is to be developed on the city-owned property bordered by Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, 13th Street, Madison Street, and 14th Street. Currently this park consists of a large open area and the City's Community Garden. The vision for the park is to create an outdoor health park with an open field, a 1/3 mile walking trail, inclusive playground, an expansion of the community garden, a spray pad and outdoor performance area, outdoor fitness equipment, and picnic areas. The Rotary Club will be working on the playground project this summer. In the future, there would be public restrooms and the end of the park facing Martin Luther King Jr. Drive would include retail and professional office space for medical clinics and related agencies with upper story living. The theme of the park is healthy living. It will provide a venue for local schools, the Parks Department, and other agencies to educate the public, especially youth, about proper diet and exercise.

The Purchase Area Connections for Health is working to fundraise and complete the park. The partnership includes the core agencies of the City of Paducah, United Way of Paducah-McCracken County, Baptist Health Paducah, Lourdes Hospital, and the Purchase District Health Department.

Engagement Agreement with Moss & Barnett for Cable Franchise Renewal

The Paducah Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance for an engagement agreement with Minneapolis-based Moss & Barnett for legal representation to renew the cable television franchise. The City's current franchise agreement with Comcast expires in November. Brian Grogan, an expert in telecommunications law with Moss & Barnett, negotiated our current franchise and will again be the City's primary attorney for updating the City's ordinance and drafting a new agreement.

Quick Highlights

- Municipal order approved to apply for the Arts Engagement in American Communities grant through the National Endowment for the Arts. The grant request is for \$10,000 which would require a \$10,000 match from the City. If awarded, the grant would be used for the installation of a wayfinding system of signs at key locations in downtown and the Lower Town Arts District.
- Ordinance introduced (vote April 12) to formally accept the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$500,000 for the 432 Broadway Demolition Project. This grant requires a match from the City of \$125,000. The City received notification of preliminary grant approval in November 2015. After an audit of the project files last week, the granting authority is prepared to issue the grant agreement.
- Ordinance introduced (vote April 12) for a contract for services with the Greater Paducah Economic Development Council (GPEDC, also known as PED) with the City providing GPEDC \$300,000 for the current fiscal year. GPEDC has absorbed the responsibilities of EntrePaducah.
- City Manager Jeff Pederson says the dome is inflated. Work continues on sidewalks and landscaping on North 6th Street near the dome. Pederson thanked contractors A&K Construction and Central Paving for their efficient work in getting the dome's foundation completed. He explained that the dome is now an asset of the Paducah-McCracken County Convention Center Corporation. Funds from the transient room tax will be used to pay for the dome's relocation.



Pam Spencer, Public Information Officer

City of Paducah • P.O. Box 2267 • Paducah, Kentucky 42002

270/444-8669 • Office 270/443-5058 • Fax

Website: <http://paducahky.gov> Email: pspencer@paducahky.gov

Pederson added that a 30 by 40 foot building will be installed on site to store the dome. Storing the dome adjacent to its foundation will reduce the amount of wear-and-tear on the fabric and will prolong its useful life.

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