



# City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

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## **Curbside Recycling Presentation**

City Manager Jeff Pederson, with the assistance of Assistant to the City Manager Michelle Smolen, Public Information Officer Pam Spencer, City Engineer & Public Works Director Rick Murphy, and Assistant Public Works Director Chris Yarber, led the Paducah Board of Commissioners through a presentation and discussion regarding the implementation of curbside recycling in Paducah. This program is targeted to start in January 2018. Pederson said, "It's accurate to say the interest in doing this is for environmental reasons. We are not under any State mandates, that I'm aware of, to do source reduction. We do not have a landfill that we are wanting to preserve space in. So we are doing it for reasons other than regulatory."

Smolen said, "The City of Paducah is committed to providing a responsible and efficient curbside recycling program that enables our community to make a positive impact on the environment." Smolen also said the keys to the program's success will be public participation and the efficiencies gained in the Engineering-Public Works Department through changes in programs such as the brush collection program.

The presentation focused on several assumptions for program development. The program would be for residential service only, and subscription would be voluntary. It would require a fee in the range of \$3 to \$5 per month per subscriber. The fee is due to the need to purchase rollout containers for recycling and due to the fact that the disposal of recyclable materials is, at this time, \$5.18 more per ton than the disposal of solid waste. Another program component is that the collection of recyclables would be curbside/roadside only with no collection in alleys. The City plans to use royal blue 96-gallon rollout containers. Collection also would be either twice per month or every other week per subscriber.

The development of this curbside recycling program relies, in part, on efficiencies found in the Solid Waste Division through a restructuring of the brush and yard waste collection program. The City is proposing a call-in request system with brush collection based upon a minimum volume of material to be collected. Also, residents will be required to manage their yard waste/grass clipping at the household level.

After the presentation, the Paducah Board of Commissioners approve a motion directing the City Manager to oversee the development of a curbside recycling program in Paducah based on the program assumptions as presented at this meeting.

Over the next few weeks, staff will be working on the operational plan and policy changes to implement curbside recycling and creating the public education campaign to inform the citizens of the recycling program and the changes to the brush and yard waste collection program. The program specifics will be presented at the October 10 City Commission meeting.

## **Discussion about Gen. Lloyd Tilghman Statue**

The Paducah Board of Commissioners allowed citizens to address the Board and provide their thoughts about the statue of Confederate General Lloyd Tilghman located at Lang Park (also known as Circle Park) in the Fountain Avenue Neighborhood. Mayor Brandi Harless opened the public comment period by thanking the crowd for their willingness to have these difficult conversations with respect and dignity. Over the course of more than an hour, six people provided their passionate thoughts about the statue itself, Confederate monuments in general, history, and racism. Afterward, each Commissioner had an opportunity to voice their thoughts about this conversation underway in Paducah and how Paducah can set an example. Commissioner Richard Abraham said, "I have never lived in city as loving and caring as Paducah." Commissioner Sarah Holland said, "The most important thing to me is to have a conversation as a community and to not treat each other as the enemy." Mayor Harless wrapped up the discussion by thanking everyone. "We have an opportunity to do it different in Paducah and look each other in the eye." Mayor Harless asked everyone to think about the following question as it relates to current issues such as poverty and job opportunities: *How can I understand what racism in 2017 looks like?*

Click <https://youtu.be/Xo0v7MClrcU> to view the entire Commission meeting. (The discussion begins at 58 minutes into the meeting).



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### **Property Tax Rate Public Hearing and Ordinance Introduction (vote September 26)**

The Paducah Board of Commissioners introduced an ordinance setting the real estate and personal property taxes for fiscal year 2018. A property tax levy public hearing was held at the beginning of the Commission meeting. The City's real estate tax levy is proposed to remain at 25.5 cents per \$100 assessed value. The City's Compensating Rate, the rate that would keep the revenue at the same amount as this fiscal year, is 24.6 cents per \$100 assessed value. Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) permits a city to adjust the rate upward by not more than 4 percent of the compensating rate. With the proposed 25.5 cents, the City would be taking an amount less than the 4 percent allowed by KRS. The proposed rate of 25.5 cents is much less than what the rate was more than twenty years ago in fiscal year 1995. At that time the real estate rate was 43.8 cents per \$100 assessed value. The revenue generated by the property tax is the City's second highest revenue source behind the payroll tax. Recently, the Paducah Independent School District voted to set its tax rate at 79.7 cents per \$100 of assessed value. The City collects the school tax, but passes the funds along to the district.

### **Amend Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance (vote September 26)**

The Paducah Board of Commissioners introduced an ordinance for amendments to the City's alcohol and beverage ordinance contained in Chapter 6 of the City's Code of Ordinances. One noteworthy amendment regards the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sunday. The amendment would permit the sale of alcoholic beverages on Sundays for all license types during the same hours such sales are permitted any other day of the week. Currently, Sunday sales are permitted between 1 and 10 p.m. and are limited to certain license holders. Many of the other amendments are necessary to comply with the passage of House Bills 100, 183, and 319 during the 2017 Kentucky legislative session.

### **Change Order #1 for Noble Park Lake Bank Stabilization Project – Phase II**

The Paducah Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance for Change Order No. 1 between the City of Paducah and Youngblood Excavating & Contracting, LLC for the Noble Park Lake Bank Stabilization Project Phase II. This project uses sheet piling to create a retaining wall that will stabilize the erosion of the bank at Noble Park Lake. The change order increases the contract amount by \$20,500 bringing the total contract amount to \$263,480. The reasons for the change order include the need to remove a tree which interfered with construction, the removal of organic materials from the lake, and the construction of a new pedestrian bridge. The change order also extends the contract deadline to September 30.

Over the past few months, Youngblood has been installing approximately 650 linear feet of steel sheet piling and concrete cap along the south and west bank of the Noble Park Lake to match the first phase of the project. Additionally, while the water was lowered, the steel sheet piling surfaces from both phases were sandblasted and painted with a black vinyl finish to protect and add life expectancy. Phase I of the project occurred in 2014 with the installation of 665 linear feet metal sheet piling to stabilize the southeastern side of Noble Park Lake.

### **Quick Highlights**

- Mayor Brandi Harless introduced Amanda Hill. Hill has been working with the ridesharing service, Lyft, to offer the service in Paducah. Hill is the first in Paducah to provide the transportation option. Hill says that the number of drivers has greatly increase with eight now in the Lyft program and an expectation of 20 drivers to be providing the service by this weekend. For more information about Lyft, visit [www.lyft.com](http://www.lyft.com).
- Convention & Visitors Bureau Executive Director Mary Hammond provided an overview of the UNESCO Creative Cities Annual Meeting that will be held later this month in Paducah.
- Municipal order approved to apply for Kentucky Division of Waste Management 2018 Litter Abatement Award grant. If awarded, the grant is based on a formula using the total number of street miles in Paducah and the number of grant applicants. No local match is required.
- Municipal orders approved accepting the following grants:
  - Kentucky Office of Highway Safety grant in the amount of \$25,300. The funds will be used for traffic enforcement activities. No local match is required.
  - PetSafe Bark for your Park maintenance grant in the amount of \$10,000. The funds will be used to improve drainage at the Paducah Dog Park at Stuart Nelson Park. No local match is required.
  - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$1 million for the rehabilitation of Floodwall Pump Station #2.
- Municipal order approved for an interlocal agreement between the City Commission and McCracken County Fiscal Court. This agreement is required for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Accountability Grant application. The City



has applied for the grant to help with the purchase of a license plate reader system which has a total project cost of \$20,595. We have received notice that Paducah is eligible for \$11,284 in grant funding.

- Municipal order approved authorizing the ownership agreement with the Paducah-McCracken County Joint Sewer Agency regarding the storm water system installed in the Wallace Park Subdivision. JSA performed a sanitary/storm sewer system separation in that neighborhood several years ago. This agreement places the storm sewer system under the City's ownership.
- Municipal order approved to adopt the McCracken County Solid Waste Area Management Plan for 2018-2022. This plan is required by KRS 224.43-340.
- Municipal order approved for the purchase of two truck-mounted self-contained vacuum debris collectors in the total amount of \$329,770 from TAG Truck Center.
- Municipal order approved ratifying the execution of an ingress/egress easement for property owned by James Marine, Inc. The City uses James Marine's property entrance to service Floodwall Pump Station #11. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has completed the rehabilitation design for the pump station. The Corps requires a legal easement to advertise for construction bids. A separate municipal order was approved that provided the authorization for entry for construction for the Floodwall Pump Station #11 and #7 rehabilitation projects.
- Municipal order approved to execute a work-for-hire agreement with Paducah Quilt Murals, Inc. for the installation and maintenance of up to 19 quilt murals on the floodwall panels on the river side of the floodwall facing the Julian Carroll Convention Center.
- Municipal order approved authorizing the payment in the amount of \$34,029 to Paducah Economic Development (PED) from the Economic Incentive Reserve account. These funds will help reimburse PED for the purchase of a parcel of land in Information Age Park (Paducah Commerce Park) used for the expansion of Credit Bureau Systems, Inc. Credit Bureau intends to employ up to 70 new full-time employees.

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