



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at City Hall

Note: Mayor Gayle Kaler and Commissioner Sandra Wilson were unable to attend this meeting.

Downtown and Market House Historic District Assessment and Reassessment Moratorium

The Commissioners approved an ordinance establishing the Downtown & Market House Historic District Assessment and Reassessment Moratorium. This ordinance encourages the repair, rehabilitation, or stabilization of existing properties in the district that are at least 50 years old by providing a program in which the property tax paid to the city would be frozen at the pre-renovation assessment for five years. Planning Director Steve Ervin says, "We are pretty excited to offer this in the downtown area that is seeing so much rehabilitation and revitalization." For a property to be eligible for this moratorium, it must receive more than \$75,000 worth of improvements. This moratorium does not affect the amount of tax paid to the City school system or to McCracken County. This program will be managed by the City of Paducah Planning Department. To be eligible for the program, an application must be filed with the Planning Department prior to the renovations to the building. After the application is submitted, the Property Valuation Administration (PVA) would assess the property. Then, the property owner has two years to complete the renovations unless granted an extension. Once the renovations are complete and reviewed by the Planning Department, then the moratorium certificate will be issued granting five years of City property taxes at the pre-renovation assessment.

Renovation of Former Commerce Center for TeleTech (vote March 10)

The Commissioners introduced an ordinance to pay Paducah Economic Development (PED) \$75,000 from the Investment Fund to assist with the renovations to the former Commerce Center building at 401 Kentucky Avenue for use by TeleTech. PED received a \$1 million grant to renovate the building; however, renovations cost \$1.15 million. PED has asked the City to contribute \$75,000. TeleTech has two call center locations in Paducah-McCracken County. In July 2014, TeleTech held a ribbon cutting ceremony for its newly constructed facility in Paducah Commerce Park (also known as Information Age Park). TeleTech also utilizes the former Commerce Center building to house a portion of its 550 employees. Visit www.telettechjobs.com or call 866-796-5485 for more information about job opportunities. TeleTech employs nearly 41,000 people worldwide.

Updates from City Manager Jeff Pederson

- City Manager Jeff Pederson says a day trip to St. Louis is being arranged for next Tuesday for Commissioner Allan Rhodes, Engineering-Public Works Operations Manager Chris Yarber, Public Information Officer Pam Spencer, and him to visit the Republic Services recycling processing facility. Plans are underway for Republic to offer a recycling drop point in Paducah as the City works on a possible plan to transition to curbside recycling. GPS-Recycle Now plans to cease its collection of recyclables at its North 8th Street facility later next month.
- The public may have noticed additional barricades around the building at 432 Broadway. The City is actively engaged with the building's owner to assess the structure. A structural engineer is expected to review the building tomorrow with a recommendation to be forthcoming.
- Pederson and the elected officials recognized the efforts of the city workforce during last week's snowfall. Pederson also acknowledged the assistance by the Paducah-McCracken County Joint Sewer Agency (JSA) and the community to clear storm inlets before last Friday and Saturday's rain.

Quick Highlights

- Bob Wade and Lenny Powley reappointed to the Paducah-McCracken County Urban Renewal & Community Development Agency (URCDA).
- Municipal order approved adopting the City's position and pay schedule to create the crime analyst position in the Police Department.



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

- Municipal order approved to apply for the Kentucky Office of Highway Safety Grant in the amount of \$56,564.80 for the Police Department to fund overtime hours associated with traffic enforcement aimed at reducing DUI and distracted driving incidents. No local match is required.
- Municipal order approved to apply for the Kentucky Office of Highway Safety Grant in the amount of \$26,782.50. If awarded the funds would be used to continue the Police Department's Heads Up Don't Be In-text-icated Program. No local match is required.
- Municipal order approved to apply for the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security Law Enforcement Protection Program Grant in the amount of \$23,940 for the purchase of 36 body armor vests for the Police Department. No local match is required.
- Ordinance approved for a contract with Peel & Holland Financial Group for the administration of the City's health insurance. The contract amount is for \$71,900 with an additional fee of \$200 per hour subject to a minimum retainer of \$5000 for services requested by the City or the City's legal counsel for issues that arise in connection to employee bargaining, legal matters, disputes, etc.
- Ordinance approved for a contract with Linwood Motors for the purchase of a ½ ton pickup truck in the amount of \$31,246 for use by the Fire Prevention Division. Bids were accepted for this purchase with Linwood being the lowest, responsive bid.
- Ordinance approved amending the zoning ordinance related specifically to signs. The amendments include allowing projecting signs in cases where buildings are within one foot of the properties lines for the B-1 and B-3 zones; changes to the height and size for directional signage for commercial businesses in various zones; allowing awning signs to be the same dimensions as wall signs in the B-2-T zones; allowing awnings to be used as wall signs in several zones; the addition of regulations for the A-1 civic center zones; and the clarification of enforcement procedures.
- Ordinance introduced (vote March 10) accepting the \$25,000 grant from the Kentucky Office of Highway Safety to be used by the Police Department for a Roadside Drug Testing Pilot Program. The grant funds will be used to purchase drug testing kits and to conduct the law enforcement activities. No local match is required. This is a pilot program in which the Kentucky Office of Highway Safety invited Louisville, Lexington, and Paducah to participate. The program would involve the voluntary participation of people after they have been arrested for being under the influence.
- The March 3 Commission meeting is expected to be cancelled.

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