



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at City Hall

E-911 Resolution

The Mayor and Commissioners approved a resolution titled “A resolution of intent of the City Commission to retain the City/County 911 Emergency Communications Center and to proceed with recommendations of the 2014 operational review.” In late 2013, the E-911 Emergency Services Communications Board commissioned an independent analysis of various aspects of the E-911 center and operations. The analysis by Almont Associates was presented to the E-911 Board, the McCracken County Fiscal Court and in March 2014 to the City Commission. The analysis contains recommendations about staffing, operations, governance, facilities, and technology. However, also in 2014, the E-911 Board began reviewing a Kentucky State Police (KSP) proposal to provide dispatching services from KSP Post 1 in Graves County. The E-911 Board spent significant time and effort reviewing the KSP proposal but was unable to come to a consensus on a recommendation. Police Chief Brandon Barnhill and Fire Chief Steve Kyle also made a presentation at the January 6, 2015 City Commission meeting outlining their questions and concerns about the proposal and how it may not be the appropriate model for Paducah-McCracken County. Therefore, with this resolution the City Commission supports the continuation of the E-911 interlocal agreement to provide services in Paducah-McCracken County and requests the E-911 Board to resume their consideration and implementation of recommendations outlined in the operational review by Almont Associates.

Employee Recognition for 25 Years of Service

To recognize years of service with the City, City Manager Jeff Pederson has initiated a program to provide service pins and an appreciation certificate to employees. At this meeting, employees with 25 years of service were recognized. Later this month at a Commission meeting, employees with 20 years of service will be recognized. Those with 5, 10, and 15 years of service will be recognized at the department level in staff meetings or other gatherings. Employees receiving 25-year service pins and certificates are as follows:

- Section 8 Division of Planning Department: Danny Fugate and Donna Swift
- Planning Department: Donna Jackson
- Police Department: Rene Long
- Fire Department: Gary Jackson, Gary Leneave, Kevin McKellips, Daniel Pandolfi, Gabe Reeves, and Scott Brian
- Engineering-Public Works: Gary Edmonds, Neal Ford, Kathy Wyatt, and Angie Weeks.

Employees who were able to attend the recognition ceremony are pictured below. Employees (pictured from left to right) are Danny Fugate, Donna Jackson, Gary Leneave, Kevin McKellips, Gabe Reeves, Gary Edmonds, Neal Ford, and Kathy Wyatt.



Swearing-In of Police Officers

McCracken County Circuit Judge Craig Clymer conducted the swearing-in ceremony for the Paducah Police Department's officer recruits: Daniel Kimball, John P. Smith, Blair Wrye, Ryan Hudson, and Kerry Naquin

Paducah-McCracken County Joint Sewer Agency Update

Paducah-McCracken County Joint Sewer Agency (JSA) Executive Director John Hodges updated the Mayor and Commissioners on Paducah's Consent Judgment with the State Division of Water and the Environmental Protection Agency in addressing combined sewer overflows (CSO) and sanitary sewer overflows (SSO). JSA is responsible for the operation and maintenance of Paducah and McCracken County's wastewater collection and treatment system. Similar to hundreds of other communities in the United States, much of Paducah's system is a combined sewer system. In a combined sewer system, sewage and storm water runoff are collected in a single pipe. Most of the time, all of the wastewater is transported to the treatment plant. However, during periods of heavy rain, the volume in the sewer system may exceed the capacity of the system and the plant resulting in an overflow. JSA has been working for the past several years on projects to separate the storm water and sewage systems, rehabilitate lines, and increase storage capacity. One of the recent projects to separate the combined sewers is underway in the Wallace Park subdivision. Hodges says, "We're committed to getting the work done and putting the neighborhood back together. The neighborhood has been positive and patient." Hodges says the Wallace Park project is 45 percent complete. From 2008 to 2014, JSA has had capital expenditures of \$38 million on projects to increase capacity, rehabilitate lines, expand lines, and correct overflows areas. Hodges says JSA currently is doing a rate analysis and hopes to keep rates low. JSA's current rate is \$4.43 per 1000 gallons of usage which is one of the lowest rates as compared to other similarly-sized cities in Kentucky.

Historic Downtown New Business Grant Program (vote March 24)

The Mayor and Commissioners introduced an ordinance to create the Historic Downtown New Business Grant Program. This program will enhance and complement other programs including the Roof Stabilization Program and the Upper Story Residential Program. Planning Director Steve Ervin says, "This is the final tool in the Main Street toolbox. This is aimed at bringing new commercial activity to vacant storefronts downtown." The intent of the New Business Grant Program is to help new businesses or those moving their operations to downtown Paducah with their start-up financial costs including new utility services, marketing, new equipment, interior and exterior renovations, exterior signs, professional fees, and other similar costs. Similar to the other programs, this program will be managed through the Planning Department. Each business must make a minimum cash investment of \$10,000 in the building or property. The potential grant funding will be based on the size of the business. For businesses less than 1000 square feet, the City will provide a 100 percent reimbursement of the first \$5000 of eligible costs and then 50 percent of the eligible costs between \$5000 and \$10,000. For businesses that utilize more 1000 or more square feet, the City will provide a 100 percent reimbursement of the first \$7500 of eligible costs and then 50 percent of the eligible costs between \$7500 and \$15,000. City Manager Jeff Pederson says, "This is a tremendous economic development tool for the community. We are on the cutting edge here."

2010 Kentucky Transportation Enhancement Grant (vote March 24)

The Mayor and Commissioners introduced an ordinance accepting the new agreement for the 2010 Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Transportation Enhancement Grant. The City accepted this grant in 2011 for the construction of an extension of the Greenway Trail through the Perkins Creek Nature Preserve off County Park Road. However, in 2014, the City requested that the grant be used instead to extend the trail along the riverfront. The State has agreed to provide a \$520,000 grant for the construction of 5760 feet of trail beginning at Campbell Street where the existing trail ends near the Paducah Expo Center. City Engineer-Public Works Director Rick Murphy, "We are using a large portion of this grant to do the sidewalks and walking trail on the Riverfront project." The trail would go under the former Executive Inn Showroom and follow the riverfront to Schultz Park. The City is required to match the grant with \$130,000. Those funds will be provided through the Boyles Estate Trust Fund and from the Investment Fund.

Updates from City Manager Jeff Pederson

- The City's negotiations with AFSCME are going well with the expectation that a new contract will be coming before the City Commission soon.
- At the next City Commission meeting (March 17), a workshop will be held to further discuss the City Hall project by reviewing site options in the Civic Center Zone.



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 in addition to Commissioner Allan Rhodes and others will be heading to Indianapolis this week to meet with representatives of RATIO, the firm that is creating a concept plan for the former Executive Inn site. The plan will include timelines, design concepts, and funding projections.
- Pederson just returned from the National League of Cities conference. He says the focus of many of the discussions was about the downturn in the amount of federal funding for cities. Cities need to become more self-reliant in funding their projects and create more opportunities for local public-private partnerships.

Renovation of Former Commerce Center for TeleTech

The Mayor and Commissioners approved 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.

Quick Highlights

- Municipal order approved for Paducah Water to apply for a low interest loan through the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority. The request is for \$4.493 million to be used for the construction of approximately 9000 linear feet of 24" water main from the treatment plant to Kentucky Avenue. The project is anticipated to be constructed in 2016.
- Municipal order approved to apply for the Law Enforcement Service Fee Grant. The Police Department is requesting \$8114 to be used to operate a one-year DUI enforcement program. No local match is required.
- Municipal orders approved for the Section 8 Housing Program including the five year and annual Administrative Plan and the Annual Plan for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. A municipal order also was approved adopting the revisions to the Section 8 Housing Utility Allowances.
- Ordinance approved 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.
- Ordinance introduced (vote March 24) accepting the bid from Central Paving Company for an equipment rental contract providing hourly rates for equipment including operators.
- Ordinance introduced (vote March 24) accepting the bid from Jim Smith Contracting Company for the street resurfacing contract.
- Ordinance introduced (vote March 24) accepting the bid from Pine Bluff Sand and Gravel Company for the limestone contract.

###



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