



# Called City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall Training Room

## Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Workshop

The Paducah Board of Commissioners along with City Manager Jeff Pederson and department directors met for a budget workshop to discuss the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget. The fiscal year begins July 1. The first reading of the budget ordinance is set for June 9. Pederson started the meeting by reading the City Manager's Budget Letter, the first section of the budget document. Pederson says that due to flat revenue streams, "Department directors were instructed to prepare budget requests that did not exceed their respective departmental appropriations for the current year." Pederson then asked each director to provide an overview of any budgetary changes, new initiatives, or program changes in their budgets. These items are highlighted in the budget narratives that precede each department and division in the budget book. This year, the budget book has been streamlined and strengthened providing more narratives, images, and concise information for the public. Once the budget is approved, the entire budget book will be posted on the City's website.

The group also reviewed the proposed items to be funded by the Investment Fund which is funded by the ½ cent payroll tax dedicated to economic development, community development, and capital/infrastructure improvements. A lengthy discussion was held regarding the fact that the Investment Fund appropriations are becoming more and more committed to ongoing contributions to outside agencies, debt service, and annual commitments such as street rehabilitation. The percentage of the fund remaining for small capital projects is projected to decrease to only 10 percent over the next few years. Pederson says, "Clearly the Investment Fund has lost much of its past flexibility and will continue to do so without major reallocation within the area of contributions and projects."

The discussion then progressed to a discussion of some of the projects listed in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP contains infrastructure-related projects currently funded and those for which funding may not have been obtained or authorized. In general, projects listed in the CIP are planned for, built, and/or budgeted over a number of years. At this workshop, discussions were held regarding the demolition of the building at 432 Broadway, maintenance of Parks Services Department buildings, E911 equipment, and the design for the park on the former Executive Inn site.

*432 Broadway:* Planning Director Steve Ervin provided an overview of the City's history with the building located at 5<sup>th</sup> and Broadway (432 Broadway). The City has been working with the building's owner since 2010 on correction measures for the building. The owner did have some work done on the building in 2012; however, the building has further deteriorated, has significant structural issues, and poses a threat to public safety. The City secured the area around the building with fencing in 2013 and issued a demolition order in 2014. The building's owner advised the City this year that he was not prepared to spend additional money either to demolish or to stabilize the building. Ervin says the building owner is willing to transfer the building to the City. A preliminary cost estimate for demolition ranges from \$432,000 to \$657,000. To stabilize the structure without any further renovation would cost approximately \$2 million. Ervin says, "With the understanding that the building is owned by an LLC, and that the City may ultimately be responsible for the demolition of the structure, the City initiated the CDBG grant application process." On May 19, the Paducah Board of Commissioners approved a municipal order to apply for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$500,000. If this grant is awarded, the funds would be used to demolish the building. A match of \$125,000 would be required from the City. Currently, the City is drafting a request for proposals for the demolition of the building. Commissioner Richard Abraham says, "It's obviously a safety issue with that building. We have to keep that at the forefront of our minds."

*Parks Buildings:* Parks Services Director Mark Thompson explained that several Parks facilities are beginning to need significant maintenance including the Parks office building on H.C. Mathis Drive, the Robert Cherry Civic Center, and the former armory building across from Noble Park that houses the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club. Thompson says the roof at the Parks office is in need of replacement and that the building is not efficient with average monthly utility bills in the \$10,000 range. Thompson recommends forming a committee to review the needs and functions of the Parks buildings. Thompson says, "In the long run, I think it would be good to put together a panel to review the uses of all the buildings." The Paducah Board of Commissioners agreed with Thompson's recommendation.



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*E911 Equipment:* Fire Chief Steve Kyle explained to the Board that the Paducah/McCracken County Emergency Communications Board has issued a request for proposals/qualifications for a public safety/wireless communications expert to help the Board through the process of preparing a bid package for the procurement of phone system and radio controller equipment for E911. Prospective consultants have until 10 a.m. on June 26 to submit their proposals. The current E911 radio system and telephony equipment are at the end of life and will no longer be supported by the manufacturers. Chief Kyle explained that this equipment needs to be replaced and upgraded regardless of a decision by McCracken County on whether to stay with the local system or utilize services through Kentucky State Police. Chief Kyle and Finance Director Jonathan Perkins discussed increasing the radio user fees for each agency that utilizes the system. There are more than 700 users on the E911 radio system including the City, McCracken County, JSA, Barkley Regional Airport, and Swift & Staley. Each user is charged \$11 per month per radio. That fee has not changed since 2001.

*Master Plan for Former Executive Inn Site:* At the most recent meeting of the Paducah Riverfront Development Authority (PRDA), the Board approved a motion to recommend the Master Plan for the park as prepared by RATIO to the Paducah Board of Commissioners for approval and request the City provide funding for the park's design. The design is estimated to cost \$600,000. Mayor Gayle Kaler says the State has indicated that funds are available to fund the park's design. Construction is estimated to cost more than \$9.1 million which would improve the six acres of city-owned riverfront land at the site of the former Executive Inn. This project would include open green space, parking, a roadway to connect downtown to the convention center area, an interactive water feature, a play area for kids, a sculpture garden, observation pier, pavilion, and games area.

### **AFSCME Contract**

The Paducah Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance for a three year contract between the City and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) AFL-CIO Local 1586. The three year contract will be in effect starting July 1. Negotiations began last November and concluded April 27. The AFSCME membership met May 4 and voted to ratify the contract. City employees who are members of the AFSCME union work in the Engineering-Public Works and Parks Services departments.

### **Purchase of Property Located at 1414 Broadway for the Paducah Police Department**

The Paducah Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance to purchase the property located at 1414 Broadway from Powell Properties I LTD in the amount of \$24,000 to be used by the Paducah Police Department. At the May 5 Budget Workshop, Police Chief Brandon Barnhill discussed the need for additional space with the proposal to purchase a building and parking lots adjacent to the existing headquarters. This purchase is for one of the parking lots.

### **Quick Highlights**

- Ordinance approved authorizing a contract with Woodall Companies in the amount of \$29,538 for the replacement of the roof at the Paducah Recreation Center. Two bids were received for this project.
- Ordinance approved authorizing a contract with TAG Truck Center for the purchase of one diesel dump truck for the amount of \$111,995. One bid was received for this purchase.
- Ordinance approved authorizing a contract with Larry Stovesand Buick GMC for the purchase of two 1/2-ton pickup trucks for the total amount of \$56,084.60. Three bids were received for this purchase.
- Ordinance approved for the final annexation of the property located at 2675, 2665, 2655, and 2645 Holt Road. On May 12 the Paducah Board of Commissioners approved the intent to annex the property. The Planning Commission met May 18 regarding the property and recommends a zoning of Mixed Use. A new pharmacy and medical offices are proposed for the 2.35 acre property. An ordinance also was approved to rezone the property from R-1 (Low Density Residential) to Mixed Use. The property owner requested the annexation. This property, which is contiguous to Paducah's city limits, is across Holt Road from Strawberry Hill Car Wash.
- Ordinance approved accepting the Household Hazardous Waste grant from the Kentucky Division of Waste Management in the amount of \$26,800 to be used to fund the annual City-County Spring Clean Up Day held in April. The local match is \$8000 which is to be split equally between the City of Paducah and McCracken County.

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