



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, August 4, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Fountain Avenue Health Park Professional Services (vote August 11)

The Paducah Board of Commissioners introduced an ordinance for a contract with Brandstetter Carroll, Inc. for the design and construction management of the Health Park to be located in the Fountain Avenue Neighborhood. Brandstetter Carroll will be working with Paducah-based Shawnee Professional Services on this project. The park is to be developed on the city-owned six-acre property bordered by Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, 13th Street, Madison Street, and 14th Street. The engineering services are estimated at \$104,000 which is 8 percent of the estimated construction cost for the park.



Currently this park consists of a large open area and the City's Community Garden. The vision is to create an outdoor health park with an open play 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. In the future, there will be public restrooms, and the end of the park facing Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive will 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 about proper diet and exercise.

The partnership, called the Purchase Area Connections for Health, is working to create 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. This summer the Rotary Club of Paducah announced its partnership with the project by working with the organization, Play by Design, to design the playground. Rotarians and hundreds of volunteers will construct the playground and provide funding to purchase playground equipment. Local children were asked for their input on the design.

The City has received the Investing in Kentucky's Future grant for the park in the amount of \$400,000 from the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. The grant requires a cash match of \$200,000 which is satisfied through a 2014 Land & Water Conservation Fund grant in the amount of \$75,000, its cash match in the amount of \$75,000, and donations of \$25,000 each from the two hospitals. A fundraising campaign for this park will be initiated by partnership members to fully fund the park's construction. At this time more than \$600,000 is available to start the first phase of the park.



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

Response to Last Week's Incident in Noble Park

City Manager Jeff Pederson provided information compiled by Police Chief Brandon Barnhill in response to concerns about last week's shooting at Noble Park. Pederson says, "The message the Chief wants to send is that our parks are safe." In 2014, there was one reported assault in Noble Park which involved juveniles who knew each other. In 2015, there have been three reported assaults including last week's incident. Regarding that incident, Parks Services Director Mark Thompson says, "I'm not sure if anything could have prevented these issues." Thompson adds that police officers and deputies arrived within three minutes. Plus, park rangers secured the gates and evacuated nearby Stuart Nelson Park. Thompson complimented the quick action by his staff in the park. Thompson says, "They all took charge; took care of business. They made me proud. They made Paducah proud." Mayor Gayle Kaler says, "We have regular patrols and do all we can to make [Noble Park] safe for citizens."

Contract Between Paducah Water and West McCracken Water District for Water Service

The Paducah Board of Commissioners approved an ordinance for a water service contract between Paducah Water and West McCracken Water District. Paducah Water General Manager Bill Robertson attended the meeting to explain the agreement. The West McCracken Water District was created in 1962, and Paducah Water has supplied water to the district under a contract since 1967. However, the contract expired in 2007. This ordinance provides for a new 10-year contract with an option for an additional 5-year term. Rates for West McCracken customers have not changed since 2005 with a current rate of \$1.50 per 1000 gallons. Under this new contract, rates will be increased to bring the customers in line with other Paducah Water customers. Effective October 1, the charge will be \$1.70 per 1000 gallons with the charge increasing to \$1.90 per 1000 gallons in October 2016 and to \$2.10 per 1000 gallons in October 2017.

Quick Highlights

- Mayor Gayle Kaler proclaimed August 11 (8-11), 2015 as Underground Damage Prevention Day to encourage folks to use the one-call number, 811, to locate underground utilities before digging.
- Edward Narozniak reappointed to the Municipal Housing Commission.
- Resolution approved authorizing the City Engineer-Public Works Director to be the applicant agent for all FEMA and KEMA documentation required for federal disaster assistance related to the mid-February 2015 snow storm. This assistance could reimburse the City for overtime hours and equipment rental related to the storm.
- Ordinance introduced (vote August 11) for a contract with Mott Electric, LLC in the amount of \$115,250 for the installation of a 150 KW diesel-powered emergency generator at the Paducah Police Department. The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security is funding \$75,000 of the project with the remaining funds coming from the City budget.

###

