



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, February 16, 2010

Report on Donation of Executive Inn Linen for Haiti Relief

Downtown Development Director, Steve Doolittle, briefed the Commissioners on the effort to donate the sheets and towels from the closed Executive Inn to the earthquake victims in Haiti. Commissioners Gerald Watkins and Richard Abraham brought the topic up at last Tuesday's Commission meeting. Since that time Doolittle says he has fielded numerous calls from organizations willing to help donate the linens to Haiti and from local organizations that need the linens for their services in Paducah-McCracken County. Doolittle says that he will work with the local Red Cross chapter to donate a portion of the linens to local agencies. Plus, he is working with an agency that will make sure that the linens get to victims in Haiti. Doolittle also says that a few of the towels will supply HazMat 1 and be used during decontamination efforts.

Commissioner Gerald Watkins also mentioned that the Gideon Bibles at the hotel would be collected for redistribution.

Portable Restroom Facilities for Pavilion

Parks Services Director, Mark Thompson, updated the Commission on the last phase of the pavilion project. Thompson says the last phase is the purchase of portable restroom facilities. The City has been working with the State to determine the number of necessary restroom facilities based on the occupancy load of the pavilion. Thompson says that the pavilion would need 23-25 fixtures. Thompson says the purchase of the restroom trailers should not exceed \$168,000. Thompson has been researching the different type of portable restrooms. The portable restrooms are on trailers that are 20 feet long and 8 feet wide, and three trailers would be needed at the pavilion. Wells Cargo of Elkhart, Indiana is the only company that provides a restroom unit that lowers to the ground and does not require ADA chair lifts. Ameri-Can Engineering provides a portable restroom unit that requires stairs. Commissioners decided that the restroom facility that lowers to the ground would be the best for patrons even though it will cost more than the facility that requires steps. Commissioner Gerald Watkins says, "I think steps would be unacceptable for our clientele, too dangerous." Thompson expects to bring an emergency ordinance for approval of the purchase of the restroom facilities to the Commission at its meeting next Tuesday.

Earlier this month Commissioners accepted the bid in the amount of \$694,396.00 from M.P. Lawson Construction for the second phase of the pavilion project. Construction of the second phase is underway at the site located at 4th and Executive Boulevard near the Julian Carroll Convention Center. The second phase includes the site work, concrete foundations, and utilities to prepare the site for the pavilion installation. The pavilion project will be completed in time to house vendors for the 2010 AQS Quilt Show beginning April 21. In December 2009, the Commission approved the purchase of a 37,800 square foot air dome pavilion from Arizon Structures of St. Louis, Missouri.

2010 Bond Ordinance

The Commission approved an ordinance for a \$6,465,000 bond issue. The City will use funds from the investment fund to repay the bonds over a 20-year period. The investment fund is a portion of the payroll tax dedicated to capital improvement projects, neighborhood redevelopment, and economic development. The bond issue covers several projects including a portion of the cost of purchasing the Executive Inn, the pavilion and site preparation costs, the sports park property



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purchase, replacing the existing parking lot and roadway from the amphitheater to the pool at Noble Park, matching funds for the greenway trail extensions, generators to provide emergency power to several city buildings, street resurfacing, and the installation of traffic signals.

Tree Preservation Ordinance Discussion (vote February 23)

Commissioners introduced the tree preservation ordinance at their February 9 meeting. Since that time they have received numerous calls and emails from developers and real estate professionals who are concerned that the ordinance would hinder development in the City. Two realtors and a logger addressed the Commissioner and voiced their opposition to the ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Gayle Kaler says that she appreciated everyone's comments and that the Commission will take the comments under consideration. The City Commission is scheduled to vote on the tree preservation ordinance on February 23.

The purpose of the ordinance is to preserve and protect the City's tree canopy and prevent clear cutting of property larger than an acre. A draft was presented to the City Commission in October 2009. A public hearing was held before the Planning Commission on February 1, 2010, and the Planning Commission recommends adopting the ordinance. The ordinance creates section 126-87 of Chapter 126 in the Zoning Code of Ordinances for the City of Paducah. As a requirement of the ordinance, a Preliminary Tree Inventory and Plan shall be submitted for all new commercial or residential developments that contain a minimum of one acre; all subdivision of property of three or more lots; and subdivisions that contain a minimum of one acre. This Preliminary Tree Inventory and Plan would inventory all trees greater than 18 inches in diameter. If a developer needs to remove a tree larger than 18 inches in diameter, the developer would be responsible for replacing the tree with 3 or more trees depending upon the size of the original tree. Several exemptions would apply to this plan including cemeteries, commercial nurseries, and residential lots less than one acre. The removal of trees that are dead or diseased would also be exempt from the preservation plan.

Quick Highlights:

- Approval of a municipal order creating the position of Budget Analyst.
- Recognition of Budget and Human Resources Administrator Adrienne Gleeson's recent achievement of the certification as Professional in Human Resources.
- The first installment of the Fountain Avenue newsletter is posted on the City's website at <http://paducahky.gov/paducah/fountain-avenue>.

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