



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Joint Sewer Agency Update on Consent Judgment Activities

John Hodges, Executive Director of the Paducah McCracken Joint Sewer Agency (JSA), briefed the Commission on the consent judgment activities of JSA. JSA is responsible for the operation and maintenance of Paducah and McCracken County's wastewater collection and treatment system. In 2007, JSA entered into a Consent Judgment with the State Division of Water and received an Administrative Order from the Environmental Protection Agency to address combined sewer and sanitary sewer overflows to improve its collection systems. The 1994 Clean Water Act outlawed combined sewers. During a storm, flow in a sewer system may exceed the pipe's capacity. Also, a sewer system may overflow due to pipe failures or blockages. When this occurs, untreated wastewater may flow into streams and rivers. JSA is permitted for these discharges; however, the Judgment and Order require JSA to develop and implement plans to reduce the discharges and improve the sewer system. JSA is not alone; other communities in Kentucky are under similar consent judgments. Since 2007, JSA has spent more than \$7 million on capital improvement projects to improve maintenance and rehabilitation. One of the other requirements of the consent judgment is the submittal of a Sanitary Sewer Overflow Plan (SSOP). JSA submitted the plan on March 5, 2010. The next document that JSA is currently compiling is the Long-Term Control Plan, which is due September 2010. This plan includes a public participation component and an evaluation of the costs associated with upgrading the system. Over the next few months, JSA will research system upgrade alternatives and present the information at public meetings.

Sports Park Master Plan

Parks Services Director, Mark Thompson, and Pat Hoagland of Brandstetter-Carroll Inc. presented an update of the Sports Park Master Plan. In October 2009, Commissioners approved contracting with Brandstetter-Carroll for the development of the plan for the property on Sheehan Bridge Road. Hoagland explained that over the past few months, meetings with stakeholders have resulted in the development of two concept plans for the sports park. Stakeholders include several City and County sports teams. The plans include a tournament headquarters pavilion, baseball and soccer fields, playgrounds, restrooms/concession building, pond, walking trails, picnic shelters, parking areas, a future recreation building, basketball courts, fishing dock, and batting cages. The project will be constructed in phases. Commissioner Gerald Watkins says, "Recreation is a vital component for any community. That's how you attract employers and keep your population base." Mayor Bill Paxton says, "We've got this vision for this sports park. We are in the preliminary stages and we've got a fund drive going on to pay for this property." Mayor Paxton says that he would like to have the private fundraising goals achieved and the County's commitment before beginning the phased construction of the sports park. In December 2009 the City Commission approved the purchase of 165 acres on Sheehan Bridge Road to be developed as a multi-use sports park. Soccer advocate David Hutcheson is leading the private fundraising effort.

Pavilion Project (vote March 23)

Commissioners introduced an ordinance to transfer the deed for the pavilion property from Paducah Renaissance Alliance (PRA) to the City of Paducah. The property is approximately 1.4 acres located at 600 North 4th Street. In February, the property was a charitable donation to PRA from Forrest Preston, Chairman/CEO of Life Care Centers of America, Inc. Construction is underway to prepare the site for a pavilion that will be used for the AQS Quilt Show in April.



Contact: Pam Spencer, Public Information Officer
City of Paducah • P.O. Box 2267 • Paducah, Kentucky 42002
270/444-8669 • Office 270/443-5058 • Fax
<http://www.paducahky.gov> Email: pspencer@ci.paducah.ky.us

Parks Services Director, Mark Thompson, informed the Commission about some changes to the pavilion building. The changes include modifications to the door configurations for exiting requirements. Changes also are being made to the electrical system for emergency backup functions. The change order with Arizon Structures will increase the pavilion cost by \$20,097. Commissioners introduced an ordinance for the change order at this meeting with a vote scheduled on March 23.

Commission Cost of Living Adjustment

Commissioners approved a municipal order to suspend the cost of living adjustment recommended by the State. The State recommended a 2.72% cost of living adjustment (COLA), but the Commission decided not to increase their salary. Each year the State sends to all cities of the second class COLA notices for Mayor and City Commissioner pay. The Mayor's salary will remain at \$22,488 and each Commissioner's salary will remain at \$20,202.

Quick Highlights:

- Robert Tashin introduced three of the McCracken County 4-H Speech Contest Winners: Hannah West (11 year old winner), Maggie Swift (13 year old winner), and Katie Stewart (14 year old winner).
- Ordinance introduced (vote March 23) to approve three contract addendums with IAFF Local 168 (International Association of Fire Fighters). The contract addendums address transitional duty, using the September Consumer Price Index as opposed to the October CPI, and payroll practices reflecting the incentive overtime pay calculation.
- Ordinance introduced (vote March 23) for the purchase at a cost of \$20,070 of an additional 2010 Crown Victoria Police Interceptor Pursuit vehicle for the Police Department.
- Ordinance introduced (vote March 23) for a letter of agreement with FEMA to request the City of Paducah's floodwall to be designated as a Provisionally Accredited Levee. This designation informs property owners that an assessment of the floodwall levee is underway. This designation also provides the City an additional two years to submit all of the necessary documentation to fully comply with the federal regulations of the Flood Insurance Study.
- Ordinance introduced (vote March 23) to approve a contract with Jonathan Perkins as Interim City Manager/Finance Director.

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