



## City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

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### **Proposal for Mounted Police**

Police Chief James Berry and Carson Park Board Member Sandra DeWeese presented a proposal to the City Commission for the Paducah Police Department to organize a two-officer mounted patrol unit. DeWeese says, "It's a proactive approach to preventing crime. One officer on a horse can do what eight to ten officers can do on foot." DeWeese adds mounted patrols also help with crowd management and can be the official ambassadors for Paducah in leading parades and processions. Chief Berry has 13 years of experience with mounted patrols while he worked in Hartford, Connecticut. Chief Berry says, "Mounted police is just another way of bringing the community together." DeWeese says the horse would be housed at no charge at the stables at Carson Park. The training as well as insurance, equipment, tack, and food for two horses would cost an estimated \$24,000 for the first year and then the cost would be about half for each following year. Chief Berry hopes community donations and support could defray the costs for the mounted patrol. In addition to Louisville and Lexington, Paducah would be the third Kentucky city to utilize horses. When not in use by the Police Department, the horses would be used in a therapeutic riding program for children with special needs. Commissioners will discuss mounted patrols during their budget workshop later this month.

### **Purchase of Portable Restrooms for the Pavilion (vote May 25)**

Due to the pavilion being classified by the State as a temporary structure, it must be dismantled six months out of the year. Parks Services Director, Mark Thompson, recommends inflating the pavilion once each year during a six-month window that would include April for the AQS Quilt Show. The six-month options for the pavilion to be inflated recommended by Thompson would be November through April or April through September. Thompson also recommends dismantling the pavilion by the end of this month and re-inflating it in November once a marketing strategy is in place. Thompson says, "We think we have a few things to operate in the dome November through March." He suggests the ice skating rink and basketball games as examples. The pavilion cannot be used until the portable restrooms arrive which will take approximately two months for delivery. Commissioners agreed with Thompson's recommendation. The cost to dismantle the pavilion totals \$9500 (\$3750 for Arizona supervision and labor; \$2250 for temporary labor; and \$3500 for equipment and materials).

Commissioners introduced an ordinance for the purchase in the amount of \$171,821.45 for portable restroom facilities. After researching various vendors, Thompson determined only one vendor, Wells Cargo Industries of Elkhart, Indiana, provides a facility that lowers to the ground thus eliminating the need for stairs or additional construction. This type of portable restroom facility is the easiest and safest for citizens and tourists. The portable restrooms will be used at the pavilion site and can be moved to other locations to support festivals and parks activities. The purchase includes three trailers that lower to the ground providing sinks and 24 partitioned restroom stalls. One of the units is designed to be ADA accessible. It will take two months before the restrooms are delivered. The purchase of the portable restrooms is considered to be the third phase of the pavilion project. The first phase was the purchase of the 37,800 square foot pavilion, and the second phase was the preparation of the downtown site. The purchase of the restrooms brings the total pavilion project cost to \$1,696,000.



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### **Resolution to Honor W. J. Brockenborough**

Mayor Paxton and the Board of Commissioners approved and presented a resolution to Bruce Brockenborough expressing their appreciation for the contributions to the community of his father, W. J. (Jim) Brockenborough. In a ceremony on May 7, the Paducah Water Treatment Plant was renamed the W.J. Brockenborough Water Treatment Plant. Brockenborough served on the board of the Commissioners of Waterworks from February 12, 1980 to September 1, 2009. He chaired the board from May 27, 1987 to September 1, 2009. Mayor Paxton says, "Mr. Brockenborough loved his community. The new water plant was built during his tenure with his leadership."

### **Fire Department Cost Recovery for Incident Response**

Fire Chief Steve Kyle presented the Commission with a proposal to recover the costs that the Fire Department spends when it responds to an incident that involves non-city residents. Kyle says the greatest recovery potential would be from motor vehicle accidents. Kyle says, "We don't provide services to just people in Paducah. We provide services to people who visit Paducah." He estimates the cost recovery could return \$30,000-\$100,000 to the Fire Department's budget. The Paducah Fire Department has experienced an increase in service calls; however, it has been dealing with an increasingly tight budget due to items such as the increased costs for fuel, specialized training, and equipment. Cost recovery for fire departments is more common nationwide. Kyle says, "It's a growing trend, but it's in its infancy stage." Kyle adds that the Concord and Reidland-Farley Fire Departments charge the insurance companies of non-county residents when they respond to incidents. Commissioners asked Chief Kyle to provide additional information.

### **Agreement for Site Plan Design for New Fire Headquarters**

Commissioners approved an ordinance for a contract with Peck, Flannery, Gream & Warren in an amount not to exceed \$25,700 for the site plan, architectural drawings, and construction documents for the proposed construction of a new fire headquarters. Fire Chief Steve Kyle says, "We want to be shovel-ready so that when and if funds become available, we are ready to go." The proposed new location for the fire headquarters will be at the site of the existing Fire Station 4 on Jackson Street. That station is 60 years old. Kyle says, "That area is the right site that gives us access to anywhere in the City in eight minutes." Kyle adds that the station on Jackson Street receives the highest call volume. The current headquarters is located at 301 Washington Street.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual An Evening of Performance**

Human Rights Commissioner Bernice Belt updated the Commission on the entertainment lineup for the Human Rights Commission's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual An Evening of Performance. There are 16 entertainers scheduled for the event set for May 21, 2010, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Carson Center. This is a **free** event to celebrate the area's diversity and talent. For more information about the Human Rights Commission, visit [www.paducahky.gov](http://www.paducahky.gov).

### **Approve Payment for Security at Executive Inn (vote May 25)**

Commissioners introduced an ordinance to pay the company Event Security in an amount not to exceed \$45,000 for security services at the Executive Inn. The City has utilized Event Security since the City purchased the hotel in December 2009. The City expects to pay for security services until this summer when the hotel will be liquidated and the building demolished. To date, the security services have cost slightly more than \$17,000.

### **Agreement with Transportation Cabinet for MAP Funds for FY2010-2011 (vote May 25)**

Commissioners introduced an ordinance for the agreement with the KY Transportation Cabinet, Department of Rural and Municipal Aid, for the acceptance of Municipal Aid Program (MAP) Funds. The MAP funds are collected from the State gas tax and are allocated for maintenance, reconstruction, or construction of City streets. Paducah maintains 223 miles of streets. Paducah's allocation of State gas tax funds averages nearly \$500,000 a year with \$490,183 expected for the upcoming fiscal year. MAP funds for incorporated cities are based on 7.7% of the gas tax collected



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in the State. The distribution amount is based on a formula that considers population only. A public hearing for the MAP funds required by KRS 174.100 will be held at the beginning of the May 25 Commission meeting.

### **2010 Great American Main Street Award for Paducah**

Paducah Renaissance Alliance Marketing Manager, Jessica Perkins, briefed the Commission on Paducah's 2010 Great American Main Street Award (GAMSA). GAMSA is the highest national award by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Five cities are chosen each year, and Paducah is one of the five 2010 national recipients. Perkins explained that Paducah was chosen based on several factors: the use of art and culture in its revitalization strategy, public-private investments, the commitment to historic preservation, community support, the quality of long term achievements, innovative solutions to significant problems, long term success in the commercial district, effective use of the Main Street Four-Point Approach in revitalization, successful small business development, positive economic impact from revitalization efforts, and the people who have supported Paducah. A ceremony was held May 7 at the downtown gazebo to honor 14 dozen people who have worked over the past two decades to improve Paducah. Click [Paducah Renaissance Alliance](#) for more information about GAMSA and PRA.

### **Quick Highlights:**

- Municipal order approved to apply for the Kentucky Office of Highway Safety grant in the amount up to \$91,000 for equipment and the salaries and benefits working overtime during traffic enforcement activities. No local match is required.
- Municipal order approved to apply for a \$75,000 grant through the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security. The funds would be used to purchase a sixth E-911 dispatch workstation. No local match is required.
- Ordinance approved accepting Project Safe Neighborhoods grant funds in the amount of \$15,000 from the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government. The funding will be used to purchase equipment for the Paducah Police Department. No local match is required.
- Ordinance approved accepting the Kentucky League of Cities Safety and Liability Grant award in the amount of \$3000 for the purchase of safety equipment.
- Ordinance approved to change the text in the City's Zoning code of ordinances. The word "church" has been changed to "place of worship".
- Ordinance approved to purchase 11 mobile data computers in the amount of \$45,078 for the Fire Department. A Homeland Security grant will fund a portion of the purchase.
- Ordinance approved to purchase three thermal imaging cameras in the amount of \$25,521 for the Fire Department. Funds from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program will be used to purchase the cameras.
- Ordinance approved for a change order in the amount of \$1850 for the contract with Martin, Colson, Hale & Henderson for its study on the business license tax rate range if the City converted to a net profits system. The change order brings the total cost of the study to \$9350. The change order was for additional study information.
- Ordinance introduced (vote May 25) to appropriate \$25,000 for the 2010 AQS Quilt Show. The funds are a local match to a State Tourism grant and will be paid to AQS through the Paducah-McCracken County Convention & Visitors Bureau.

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