



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, November 20, 2012

Paducah-McCracken County Riverport Authority Presentation

Paducah-McCracken County Riverport Authority Executive Director Ken Canter provided the Mayor and Commissioners with an announcement about a new feature for the Riverport. Canter says, "We are embarking on the single largest investment and expansion the Riverport has ever made." The Riverport is purchasing a 45-ton crane to replace the existing 20-ton blue crane at the facility. The crane project will cost approximately \$4 million. Canter says the Riverport has already passed a mussel study and received Corps of Engineers permitting. The project will be out to bid in January with a ribboncutting hopefully to occur one year later. This new crane would be able to lift large containers and allow Paducah to take advantage of container-on-barge distribution. A barge loaded with containers often carries 75 containers weighing 27-30 tons each. Mayor Bill Paxton says, "This just adds to our reputation as a distribution center for mid-America." Canter says, "Paducah is uniquely located to take advantage of traffic coming north. We are well-positioned to handle a lot of volume." To help with the project, Canter is requesting \$100,000 each from the City of Paducah and from McCracken County. Mayor Paxton says the request will be reviewed. The Riverport, located on Wayne Sullivan Drive, is a public terminal that has on-site rail and truck services to offload, store, package, or transport cargo. Currently the Riverport moves one million tons of product each year. For more information about the Riverport, visit www.paducahriverport.org.

Noble Park Swimming Pool Rehabilitation Project (vote Nov. 27)

The Mayor and Commissioners introduced an ordinance for a contract with Aquatic Renovation Systems, Inc. (RenoSys Corporation) for the rehabilitation of the Noble Park swimming pool. The contract is in the amount of \$795,930 with a scope of work to include the pool liner, replacement of the gutter, drain, filtration, disinfection, pumping, and piping systems in addition to a new treatment and storage building, concrete improvements, and the installation of new diving boards and platforms, a water slide, and a pool lift. The project will be completed by May 10, 2013 and ready for the public's use by the Memorial Day weekend. Commissioner Richard Abraham says, "We are getting a new pool from the inside out." The initial bid opening for the project was held in July with the lowest bid at \$1.28 million which was higher than the City's project budget. The project was modified and re-bid with a bid opening earlier this month. Aquatic Renovation Systems placed the only bid in the amount of \$1,049,269. To get the project closer to the City's budgeted amount, the City modified the contract with Aquatic Renovation Systems by removing some of the demolition work from the scope of work and by separating the project into separate bid packages for the concession stand renovations and for the installation of the new sprayground to replace the wading pool. The bid opening for the concession area will be December 5. The bid package for the sprayground is not complete at this time. The Noble Park Pool has not received a significant renovation since 1992. The pool averages 300-400 visitors per day during the summer.

Contract to Construction Single Family Homes in Fountain Avenue Neighborhood (vote Nov. 27)

The Mayor and Commissioners introduced ordinances to award construction contracts for three homes in the Fountain Avenue Neighborhood. The contract to build the home at 302 Harahan Boulevard will be awarded to Crawford Contracting in the amount of \$127,800 with the contract to build the home at 1527 Monroe Street awarded to Brandon Owen Construction in the amount of



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\$137,887. The contract to build the home at 1621 Harrison Street will be awarded to Jim Steele Construction in the amount of \$118,138. Bids for the homes were opened on November 6 with the Urban Renewal and Community Development Agency (URCDA) making the contract recommendations to the City Commission. Each of these homes has a pre-qualified homeowner which is a requirement under the 2012 HOME grant. In July 2012, the City accepted the funding agreement in the amount of \$309,500 for the Kentucky Housing Corporation's 2012 HOME grant. This homeowner assistance grant will be used to help build seven new single-family homes in the Fountain Avenue Neighborhood. The grant requires a local match from the City and each new homeowner will be responsible for a majority of the home's construction cost. If you are interested in a home and would like to be pre-qualified, contact the City of Paducah Planning Department at 444-8690 or visit www.fountainave.com.

Parks Services Department Awards

Mayor Bill Paxton recognized the Paducah Parks Services Department for winning two awards last week at the Kentucky Recreation & Park Society annual conference held in Frankfort. The department was honored with the Outstanding Department Award and the Outstanding Program Award for Bikes on Broadway. Parks Services Director Mark Thompson says Paducah competed against large departments such as the ones in Louisville and Lexington for the Outstanding Department Award. Regarding Bikes on Broadway, Thompson says, "We couldn't do it without volunteers and Martha and Hutch at BikeWorld." Mayor Paxton says, "We know we have a great Parks Department. It's obvious it's a top-notch department." Paducah Parks Services is a department of 24 full-time staff.

Quick Highlights:

- Ordinance approved for the purchase of a front loading refuse collection truck from McBride Mack Sales, Inc. of Paducah in the amount of \$223,696.19.
- Ordinance approved for the contract between the City of Paducah and Peel & Holland pertaining to the administration of the City's health insurance. The contract amount is for \$65,000 with additional fee of \$200 per hour subject to a minimum retainer of \$5000 for services requested by the City or the City's legal counsel for issues that arise in connection to employee bargaining, legal matters, disputes, etc.
- Ordinance approved to accept the \$37,000 grant from the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security for the purchase of up to 14 hand-held radios for the Paducah Police Department. No local match is required.
- City Manager Jeff Pederson says a contract will be before the City Commission hopefully before the end of the year for a complete building analysis for City Hall which was built in the 1960s. Pederson says, "City Hall is a critical building to sustain the City and allow it to function and operate going forward for the next 50 years."
- Mayor Paxton asked the Commission for support in drafting a letter to WKCTC President Dr. Barbara Veazey regarding funding for the Paducah School of Art. The letter will state that the current City Commission supports a two-year extension on the three-year agreement to provide funds in the amount of \$75,000 per year for the school. The Commission supports the letter. Dr. Veazey made a presentation regarding the Paducah School of Art at the Commission's November 13 meeting.
- At 5:30 p.m. on Friday, the lights will go on at Noble Park for Paducah Power System's Christmas in the Park.

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