



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

More Profiles of Past Paducah People

Professor John E.L. Robertson, Sr. and Allan Rhodes, Jr. briefed the Mayor and Commission on the release of latest book profiling prominent Paducah residents. This is the fourth edition of More Profiles of Past Paducah People. The book is dedicated to Allan Rhodes, Sr. Robertson says, "Allan and I wished to give back something of value to the people of Paducah in appreciation." Mayor Bill Paxton says, "This is a wonderful thing that you have done for Paducah." Commissioner Richard Abraham says, "It gives you a sense of where you came from. It's a great piece." Free copies of the book are available in the Mayor's office at City Hall, Etc Coffee, the Convention & Visitors Bureau, and G&O Pharmacy. This fourth edition includes the text from the previous three editions in addition to new material.

Mayor's Award of Merit to Bernard Lewis

Mayor Bill Paxton presented the Mayor's Award of Merit to Bernard Lewis. The award is given to outstanding citizens who have gone above and beyond in their service to Paducah. Lewis is retiring and closing his jewelry store, Bernard Lewis & Company, which has been in downtown Paducah since 1982. Mayor Paxton says Lewis has worked to make downtown Paducah vibrant with his business and by volunteering. Mayor Paxton says, "People that volunteer make Paducah unique, make Paducah strong." Lewis says, "We are retiring but not retiring from Paducah. Paducah is home to us. We came here in 1972. Paducah has been very good to us."

Assign Zoning and Annex Property Owned by Paducah Power, P&L Railroad and TVA

The Mayor and Commission approved an ordinance to accept the recommendation by the Planning Commission and assign M-2 zoning (heavy industrial) to 173.7 acres of land at the southern extent of Paducah's city limits. The property extends from Bechtoldt Road south to Interstate-24, west of Poole Road, and east of Schneidman Road. The area includes property owned by Paducah Power, Paducah & Louisville Railroad, and Tennessee Valley Authority. All three property owners have signed the zone change plat and the annexation plat. Mayor Paxton says, "There are no residential properties being annexed."

A separate ordinance was approved to annex the 173.7 acres of land. An intent to annex was approved at the October 26 Commission meeting. The Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the matter on November 1. The annexation brings the Paducah Power peaking plant into the City limits. Mayor Paxton says, "Paducah Power, which is a Paducah owned utility and the City Commission appoints their board, requested these 173 acres be annexed into the City. We thought that having our utility in the City limits was the right thing to do."

The Planning Commission at its November 1 public hearing made several findings of fact including

1. All properties are industrial in nature as a Marshalling yard (P&L Railroad), Paducah Power peaking plant, and various Paducah Power and TVA power related activities are currently present on the properties proposed for M-2 zoning.
2. Paducah Power is owned by the citizens of Paducah. Paducah's peaking plant should be located in the City of Paducah.



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3. Existing City of Paducah properties to the north of the subject properties have a future industrial land use designation.
4. The vacant lands remaining owned by Paducah Power are suitable for future industrial use as they are located adjacent to the Paducah Power peaking plant and I-24.
5. The City of Paducah is committed to protecting adjacent residential areas as the M-2 zoning does not allow uses that are determined to be detrimental to the properties immediately surrounding the use.

Purchase of Portable Restrooms for the Pavilion

The Mayor and Commission approved an ordinance for the purchase in the amount of \$171,821.45 for portable restroom facilities for the pavilion. After researching various vendors, Parks Services Director Mark 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 Kentucky Division of Plumbing approves the use of this type of portable restroom facility as well. 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 25 partitioned restroom stalls. One of the units is designed to be ADA accessible. The restrooms should be delivered in eight to ten weeks.

Westwood Hills Development Agreement (vote Dec. 7)

The Mayor and Commission introduced an ordinance for an infill development agreement with Signature Homes, LLC for the Westwood Hills Subdivision located adjacent to Pines Road. Mayor Paxton says, "It's a beautiful subdivision with sidewalks and light posts. It's going to be another subdivision which will give people moving into Paducah another choice of where to live." The City of Paducah considers infill agreements with a developer if the residential development meets certain criteria such as encouraging the development of single-family owner-occupied housing on vacant or underutilized land in the mature areas of Paducah; increasing the revenue tax base necessary to meet capital needs such as public safety and infrastructure; and increasing the population base for the City of Paducah. The agreement is that the City will provide an incentive agreement that equals the lesser of the following options: reimburse the developer for its costs in acquiring the public infrastructure and improvements to the extent of 1) either the sum of \$400,000 or 2) the amount of the ad valorem real property taxes collected by the City on the residential lots located within Westwood Hills for a period of ten years. The public infrastructure and improvements in Westwood Hills such as streets and gutters have an estimated value of \$400,000. Signature Homes purchased the approximately 44-acre Westwood Hills Subdivision in June 2010.

Holiday Parade Will Now be Called the Christmas Parade

Commissioner Gerald Watkins requested that the Commission formally change the name of the Holiday Parade to the Christmas Parade. Official action to change the name will be at approved at the December 7 Commission meeting; however, the Commission verbally approved calling the parade the Christmas Parade from this meeting forward. The Christmas Parade will be December 4 at 5:00 p.m.

Quick Highlights:

- Appointed to Paducah Renaissance Alliance board: Sharon Poat, Patience Renzulli, Valerie Pollard, Allen Rhodes, Jr., Karen Utz, Harvey Sadow, Maurie McGarvey, Todd Duff, Brenda Caserta, Commissioner Carol Gault, John Campbell, Robert D. Hopper.
- Ordinance approved for an agreement with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield as the City's third party administrator for the health insurance plan effective January 1, 2011. The City currently has an agreement with Humana.
- Ordinance approved to pay \$30,118.27 to Crown Electric, Inc. for emergency electrical work at Fire Station #2 on Wayne Sullivan Drive. A lightning strike on August 15 terminated all



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electrical service at the fire station. Part of the emergency repairs included connecting the station to the Paducah Water emergency generator next to the site. The City will be reimbursed \$6,947.25 from the insurance company after a \$1000 deductible.

- Ordinance approved to accept the bid from Bluegrass Uniforms, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 per year for the next two years for Police Department uniforms.
- Ordinance introduced (vote Dec. 7) to purchase through a federal contract 200 Microsoft Office 2010 Standard software and licenses in the amount of \$50,930. The software upgrade was approved during the May budget process. The City has used the Office 2000 version since 1999.
- Ordinance introduced (vote Dec. 7) to purchase ten digital in car video systems in the amount of \$29,950 for the Sheriff's Department. The expenditure is through 2009 Justice Accountability Grant received in August 2009. The City is serving as the lead agency on the grant, which benefits the City and County. There is no local cash match requirement.
- Downtown Development Director Steve Doolittle summarized his recent trip to Golden, Colorado for the Governor's Institute on Community Design. Doolittle was invited to participate in a panel discussion at the conference. Doolittle says, "People look at us as a national model for doing some things quite well."
- Fire House Spaghetti to benefit the United Way will be this Friday, 11-1 at Station 1, 301 Washington Street.
- The next Commission meeting will be December 7.

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