



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, October 26, 2010

Jeff Pederson Signs Contract to Be Paducah's Next City Manager

On Monday, October 26 during his and his wife's visit to Paducah, Jeff Pederson signed the contract to be Paducah's City Manager. Due to contract obligations in Grand Island, Nebraska, Pederson will start his position in Paducah on December 7. However, he will be available for conference calls until his official start date. Mayor Pro Tem Gayle Kaler says, "I think he's going to be a good fit for Paducah."

Intent to Annex Property Owned by Paducah Power, P&L Railroad, and TVA

Commissioners approved an ordinance for an intent to annex for 173.7 acres of land at the southern extent of Paducah's city limits. The area includes property owned by Paducah Power, Paducah & Louisville Railroad, and Tennessee Valley Authority. All three property owners have signed the annexation plat showing their voluntary interest for the annexation. The property extends from Bechdolt Road south to Interstate-24, west of Poole Road, and east of Schneidman Road. Interim City Manager Jon Perkins says, "This annexation is really about economic development, jobs, and tax base growth. When the City tax base grows, the City and County benefit." Planning Director Steve Ervin says the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on November 1. Ervin adds that 71 surrounding residents have been notified. On November 9, the City Commission plans to introduce an ordinance for the final annexation process and the zone change to heavy industrial. The annexation would bring the Paducah Power peaking plant into the City limits. Paducah Power System Board Chairman Ray McClennan says the annexation would benefit PPS with the enhanced police and fire protection. McClennan says, "It's very important from a national security standpoint that we have a heightened security and police presence." PPS General Manager Dave Clark says PPS hopes to attract an industry to the land next to the peaking plant. Clark says, "We knew we would take a hit with the increase in property tax, but we decided we had a lot to gain especially if we get an industry in there such as a food processor." County Commissioner Jerry Beyer attended the meeting to voice concern about the annexation. Commissioner Beyer says, "Is [the annexation] legal? It may possibly be legal, but does it meet the spirit of the law?" Commissioner Beyer says the Fiscal Court was concerned about the perceived short notification time given to the County and if the Hendron Fire Department had been notified. He also voiced concern about the zoning change.

Amend PRDA Ordinance (vote Nov. 9)

Commissioners introduced an ordinance to amend the PRDA (Paducah Riverfront Development Authority) ordinance that was passed by the City Commission in October 2008. Board Chairman Joe Framptom sent Mayor Bill Paxton a letter saying that the PRDA Board unanimously approved the ordinance amendments at its October 20 meeting. The amendments clarify the appointment of the seven board members and the board's role. Also, the board will annually request and receive budget appropriations. Mayor Pro Tem Kaler says, "It makes the board more of an advisory board for the City of Paducah." As stated in the amended ordinance the mission of PRDA *shall be to assist and advise the City Commission in the development of civic projects and development plans which are intended to generate, revitalize, improve and generally enhance community areas, including but not limited to Downtown, Lowertown, the Renaissance Area Master Plan as currently being prepared by City Visions Associates, and the Paducah Riverfront. Projects more specifically contemplated to be a charge of the agency are (1) the development of a tax increment financing district; (2) the preparation of a Request for Proposals for the property formerly known as the Executive Inn, including*



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

assisting in the selection of the best proposal and oversight of the project until completion; (3) assisting in the on-going planning and implementation of the Renaissance Area Master Plan and the Paducah Riverfront Project; (4) developing and/or implementing strategic plans which will impact, compliment or enhance projects and areas falling within its Mission and (5) undertaking roles in such other municipal projects or planning as the agency may agree to undertake.

Amend PRA Ordinance (vote Nov. 9)

Commissioners introduced an ordinance to amend the PRA (Paducah Renaissance Alliance) ordinance that was passed by the Commission in December 2009. One of amendments clarifies the terms of the 15-member board. Another amendment clarifies the section of the ordinance that lists the board's duties. In that section, 14 items are listed including the artist relocation program, business recruitment program, festival management, and the Farmer's Market. The amendment allows the board to prioritize and justify the list of duties in its annual budget request. An additional amendment addresses staffing and budget. The PRA Board will be staffed by City of Paducah employees and will submit an annual budget request to the City. The PRA Board shall be entitled to recommend staffing assignments to the City Manager.

Noble Park Parking Lot Reconstruction Project Change Order (vote Nov. 9)

Commissioners introduced an ordinance for a change order with Central Paving Company of Paducah for the Noble Park Parking Lot Reconstruction Project currently underway. The change order adds \$69,386.23 to the cost of the project and extends the contract time by 17 days. The change order increases the total project cost to \$532,386.23. The additional expense is due to additional work associated with poor soil conditions and an unmarked water line. The project time has been extended with a completion date of November 5, 2010. The project is to improve drainage and the parking and driving areas near the amphitheater and poolhouse at Noble Park. City Engineer and Public Works Director Rick Murphy says an additional change order will be before the Commission to close out the project.

Request to Close a Portion of Adams Street and an Alley (vote Nov. 9)

Commissioners introduced an ordinance to close Adams Street from 6th Street to 7th Street and a 16.5-foot wide alley from Adams Street to Oscar Cross Avenue. This is requested by the McCracken County Fiscal Court to accommodate the construction and the operation of the McCracken County Low-Risk Restricted Custody Facility and the McCracken County Public Safety Complex. The Adams Street closure is for parking and the transport of prisoners with the alley closure necessary for the construction process. City Engineer and Public Works Director Rick Murphy recommends closing the entire alley for safety reasons explaining the difficulty a garbage truck would have maneuvering a dead-end alley. The Planning Commission held public hearings on September 20 and October 4. Of the six property owners who own land adjacent to the proposed closures, three have not given their consent to the closings and have not signed the application and plat. If the City Commission approves the closures, action will be taken in Circuit Court to determine whether to close the street and alley.

Quick Highlights:

- Public Information Officer Pam Spencer spotlighted the volume of grants that passes through the City of Paducah.
- Linda Ogden appointed to the Public Monument Committee.
- Municipal order approved for the spending credits to be used by city employees toward their health, dental, and vision coverage premiums under the City's health insurance plan. Currently, the spending credits are \$8500 plus other credits earned under the City's wellness plan. Each year the spending credits are adjusted based on the consumer price index. For September 2010, the CPI is 1.1%. The spending credits for the 2011 plan year will be increased to \$8595.
- Municipal order approved to adopt the antidisplacement and relocation assistance plan for the planned Centerpoint Recovery Center as required for the 2006 Community



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Development Block Grant award. The recovery center is planned for property adjacent to the McCracken County Juvenile Detention Center.

- Ordinance introduced (vote Nov. 9) to pay Herb Roe, who was subcontracted out to Robert Dafford Murals, for maintenance work completed in September on three floodwall murals. The cost for the mural maintenance including materials, travel, and lodging total \$21,400.
- Ordinance introduced (vote Nov. 9) to accept the award in the amount of \$12,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program.
- Ordinance introduced (vote Nov. 9) to accept the award in the amount of \$170,000 from the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security for the purchase of a robot, x-ray unit, and night vision goggles for the Police Department's Bomb Squad. No local match is required.
- Ordinance introduced (vote Nov. 9) to accept right-of-way on Chief Paducah Drive from the Chief Paduke Development Corporation. Chief Paduke Drive currently is a private drive near the southside Walmart that runs between Advance Auto and the new Murphy Oil Company gas station. The private drive intersects Irvin Cobb Drive. Chief Paducah Development Corporation is improving the private drive to City of Paducah standards and has provided a \$90,000 letter of credit. The Development Corporation is asking for the drive to be dedicated to the City of Paducah and for the approval of the subdivision of the corporation's property so that a tract can be sold to Paducah Bank for a new branch office. The Planning Commission recommends the ordinance.
- Ordinance introduced (vote Nov. 9) to change the zoning for 1424 and 1442 Bloom Avenue from R-4 (high density residential) to M-2 (heavy industrial). The properties, owned by KY OFC Delivery, currently are gravel lots. KY OFC Delivery plans to install a new parking lot, modular office, and fencing. The Planning Commission recommends the ordinance.
- The November 2 Commission meeting has been cancelled for Election Day.

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