



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

Lower Town Arts & Music Festival Preview

Lower Town Arts & Music Festival Co-Directors Michael and Victoria Terra provided the Paducah Board of Commissioners a preview of this year's festival which will be May 13-14. The festival usually attracts 11,000 to 16,000 people to the Lower Town neighborhood for music, art, and performances. Michael Terra also thanked the City for its support. The festival currently is produced and coordinated by the Lower Town Neighborhood Association. Starting next year, Michael Terra will step down as co-director with the Yeiser Art Center taking on the co-director role. Victoria Terra says, "It's a win-win. It's a perfect fit for both organizations." Mayor Gayle Kaler says, "I think the Lower Town Arts & Music Festival is a great example of when the government is supportive, but the passion is generated in the community by the folks who do the work."

Ceremony on March 29 to Honor Vietnam Veterans

Cheryl Bendick, regent with the Paducah Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, announced that a wreath laying ceremony and Welcome Home for our Vietnam Veterans will be March 29 at 10 a.m. at Dolly McNutt Memorial Plaza. The Welcome Home event is part of the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War. Yellow ribbons will be placed around the trees at the McCracken County Courthouse with the 50th Anniversary Commemoration Flag and other items on display inside the Courthouse. Bendick explained that Veterans Affairs Secretary Robert A. McDonald asked the nearly 9,000 commemorative partner members around the world to hold an event on March 29, the day the last boots were on the ground in Vietnam. Bendick says, "We want our Vietnam veterans to finally get the welcome home they deserve." The Commemoration is a three year program designed to reach out to every Vietnam era veteran and/or their families to say thank you. The Commemoration began in 2015 and will end December 31, 2017.

2015 Recreational Trails Program Grant Award (vote April 12)

The Paducah Board of Commissioners introduced an ordinance accepting the 2015 Recreational Trails grant award in the amount of \$68,095. The City authorized applying for this grant last March. The funds will be used to construct a 1/3 mile walking trail at the Fountain Avenue Health Park. The grant requires a 50% match which will be provided through the previously-awarded Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky grant.

The park is to be developed on the city-owned property bordered by Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, 13th Street, Madison Street, and 14th Street. The partnership working to fundraise and complete the park is called the Purchase Area Connections for Health which includes the core agencies of the City of Paducah, United Way of Paducah-McCracken County, Baptist Health Paducah, Lourdes Hospital, and the Purchase District Health Department.

Currently this park consists of a large open area and the City's Community Garden. The vision for the park is to create an outdoor health park with an open field, a 1/3 mile walking trail, inclusive playground, an expansion of the community garden, a spray pad and outdoor performance area, outdoor fitness equipment, and picnic areas. The Rotary Club will be working on the playground project this summer. In the future, there would be public restrooms and the end of the park facing Martin Luther King Jr. Drive would include retail and professional office space for medical clinics and related agencies with upper story living. The theme of the park is healthy living. It will provide a venue for local schools, the Parks Department, and other agencies to educate the public, especially the youth, about proper diet and exercise.

Engagement Agreement with Moss & Barnett for Cable Franchise Renewal (April 12)

The Paducah Board of Commissioners introduced an ordinance for an engagement agreement with Minneapolis-based Moss & Barnett for legal representation to renew the cable television franchise. The City's current franchise agreement with Comcast expires in November. Brian Grogan, an expert in telecommunications law with Moss & Barnett, negotiated our current franchise and will again be the City's primary attorney for updating the City's ordinance and drafting a new agreement.

Quick Highlights

- Municipal orders approved amending the Position & Pay Schedule and the Pay Grade Schedule.



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- Municipal orders approved for the Section 8 Housing Program including the annual Administrative Plan and the Annual Plan for the Housing Choice Voucher Program. A municipal order also was approved adopting the revisions to the Section 8 Housing Utility Allowances.
- Municipal order approved to apply for the 2016-2017 Kentucky Household Hazardous Waste Grant. through the Kentucky Division of Waste Management. The grant request of \$25,000 would be used for the annual Spring Clean Up Day for City/County residents. The grant requires a local match of \$6375 to be split between the City and County. This year's Spring Clean Up Day, a free event for Paducah and McCracken County residents, is Saturday, April 16 from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. Visit <http://paducahky.gov/events/2016-spring-clean-day> for additional details.
- Municipal order approved to apply for the 2016-2017 Law Enforcement Service Fee Grant in the amount of \$18,901.20 which would require a cash match of \$154.50. If awarded, the funds would be used to reimburse the Paducah Police Department for overtime hours and mileage for a DUI enforcement program. The funds also would be used to purchase two portable breathalyzer testing devices.
- Municipal order approved authorizing a permanent 20-foot-wide utility easement and a temporary 20-foot-wide construction easement to allow Paducah Water to construct a water main through the Paducah Police parking lot at 1400 Broadway. The Board also approved a municipal order for a 15-foot-wide permanent easement and a 32-foot-wide temporary construction easement to allow Paducah Water to construct the water main along North 14th Street on the city-owned Fountain Avenue Health Park property. Paducah Water is constructing a new 24-inch water main that will increase reliability and capacity from the treatment plant to Kentucky Avenue.
- The contractor (A&K Construction) working on the foundation for the dome has more than substantially completed the work. The City will bring the dome out of storage and begin the inflation process on Monday. Crews also are working to complete sidewalks that will allow pedestrians to walk from the Julian Carroll Convention Center to the dome along Park Avenue and North 6th Street.
- The relatively high river levels have impeded the process by MAC Construction on the Riverfront Project.

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