



# City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

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## **Establish 911 Communications Services Department (vote June 7)**

The Paducah Board of Commissioners introduced an ordinance to establish the City of Paducah 911 Communications Services Department effective July 1, 2016. The Board also introduced an ordinance to repeal the ordinance found in chapter 38 of the Paducah Code of Ordinances that created the interlocal cooperation agreement with McCracken County for 911 services. The current interlocal agreement has expired since McCracken County did not notify the City of an intent to negotiate a new agreement. The new 911 department will allow for 911 operations to continue so that emergency needs of citizens and visitors are not interrupted. The ordinance also includes an increase in the telephone landline fee from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per line per month. City Manager Jeff Pederson says, "This is a step forward in an effort to bring more resources into the system." Furthermore, this ordinance allows for the department to contract with other agencies such as McCracken County to provide 911 services.

## **Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Workshop**

The Paducah Board of Commissioners along with City Manager Jeff Pederson and department directors met for a budget workshop to discuss the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget. The fiscal year begins July 1. The first reading of the budget ordinance is set for June 21 with the vote on June 28. Earlier this year, the Board heard presentations regarding Capital Funding, the Floodwall, and Storm Water Management. At this meeting, Mayor Gayle Kaler thanked the elected officials, the City Manager, and staff for their work in managing the city's budget. Mayor Kaler says, "Because of the careful management of the funds, we have been able to do so many things without the need to issue bonds." City Manager Pederson says, "This is a team process, and we have good alignment at all levels of the organization."

Pederson says, "This year is less change. It's more of a push forward which is a good thing. Also, this year we have the most sizable growth in general fund revenue since pre-recession." For the upcoming fiscal year, the general fund revenue is projected to be \$33.47 million, a 2.4 percent increase (nearly \$800,000) as compared to the current year's revenue. "It's not a high percentage, but it's higher growth than we've seen in a long time." Pederson says the additional revenue will be put toward employee pay increases and an increase in the City's match for non-hazardous employees as required by the State. The additional revenue also will be used to fund payments for an upcoming bond to pay for the rehabilitation of floodwall pump station #2. The City also is pursuing a Community Development Block Grant for the floodwall project.

Regarding organizational structure, Pederson explained that the Planning Department will see a transition to include the responsibilities of the Paducah Riverfront Development Authority (PRDA). Executive Director Steve Doolittle will be retiring in the upcoming fiscal year with the PRDA responsibilities to transition to Planning. Pederson also explained that a new position has been created, Assistant to the City Manager. Applications have been accepted with the interview process underway.

Each department director then provided quick highlights of the projects in their respective budgets. An appropriation of \$986,000 is in the budget to prepare a Comprehensive Storm Water Management Plan. A request for qualifications has been advertised with the deadline of June 17 for companies to submit qualifications statements. Another project that will be initiated is Phase II of the Noble Park Bank Stabilization Project. Phase I was completed in 2014 which stabilized more than 650 feet of the bank, improved the accessibility of the fishing piers, leveled the sidewalks, and made the park more attractive. For Phase II, the west side of the lake will be rehabilitated.

Other topics discussed during the budget workshop include the Citizen Survey, Comcast franchise negotiations, the implementation of the Enterprise Resource Planning software, the demolition of the former nursing home at 501 North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, the Fountain Avenue Neighborhood Revitalization Project and the process to determine the next neighborhood for revitalization, the process to pursue a nomination for City Hall to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places, body worn cameras and security cameras, and the Port Security Grant request for a fire boat.



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### **Quick Highlights**

- Ordinance introduced (vote June 7) to authorize a payment in the amount of \$42,057.70 to Clean Earth, Inc. for household hazardous waste and electronic waste collected during the April 2016 Spring Clean Up Day event.
- Ordinance introduced (vote June 7) to accept the 2016-2017 Kentucky Division of Waste Management Household Hazardous Waste grant in the amount of \$25,500 to fund the 2017 Spring Clean Up Day. The grant requires a local match of \$6375 from the City and McCracken County.
- Ordinance introduced (vote June 7) for a ten-year contract between the City of Paducah and Jim Smith Contracting for the use of the tract of downtown land owned by Smith that accommodates the Farmers' Market pavilion, the downtown restrooms, and a portion of the downtown parking lot. The monthly rent payment is \$1250.

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