



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at City Hall

Transfer of Columbia Theatre

The Mayor and Commissioners approved an ordinance to transfer the Columbia Theatre building located at 510-514 Broadway to Columbia Club, Inc. for \$1.00. Earlier this year, the City of Paducah requested proposals for the purchase and transfer of the city-owned building with a deadline of February 27. Columbia Club, Inc. was the sole bidder. The transfer of the property is contingent on Columbia Club's receiving a Kentucky Department of Environmental Protection Brownfield grant. If the grant is not approved, then the theatre will be transferred back to the City of Paducah. Columbia Club, Inc. in partnership with the City of Paducah wishes to apply for a Brownfield grant in the amount of \$50,000 with funds to be used to mitigate lead-based paint and asbestos in the Columbia Theatre. The grant would require a match of \$10,000 which would be paid by the City. The theatre is eligible for the grant program if owned by a private entity such as the Columbia Club. The application deadline is April 18. The Columbia Theatre was built in 1927. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Approve Memorandum of Understanding with Higdon Development (vote April 22)

The Mayor and Commissioners introduced an ordinance for a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Higdon Development, Inc. for residential infill incentives for a condominium project off Bleich Road. Currently, 64 condominiums are located off Bleich Road in Lakewood Villa. Higdon plans to expand the development with 56 additional residential units on adjacent land. Since this infill development helps maintain growth within the City limits, the City of Paducah agrees to reimburse Higdon Development for the costs to construct and install the public improvements including streets, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, storm sewers etc. up to an amount not to exceed the total amount of ad valorem real property taxes assessed over a ten year period. Over the past few weeks in response to the request by Higdon Development for the ten year agreement, Planning Department staff reviewed development policies for other cities and states and found a wide variety of programs. Staff also met with Higdon to further understand the development costs and the ten year request. Mayor Gayle Kaler says, "I certainly think we need to encourage development within the City."

Quick Highlights

- Mayor Gayle Kaler asked Meg Hancock, a Paducah Tilghman High School student, to read a Walt Whitman poem since April is National Poetry Month.
- Mayor Gayle Kaler proclaimed April 2014 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and presented the proclamation to members of the Child Watch board.
- Marleene Anderson appointed to and Jull Gott Wrye reappointed to the Board of Ethics.
- Municipal Order approved for an agreement between the City and the Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club for the lease of the city-owned armory building and parking area located at 2956 Park Avenue. The Boys & Girls Club uses the facility to offer elementary age programming. The lease is for ten years with two automatic five year renewal options.
- Ordinance approved for change order #2 with ICA (formerly Florence & Hutchison) to close out the engineering and inspection services for the Noble Park Pool Renovation project. The final change order increases the contract by \$13,230 to a total of \$197,425. The City invested approximately \$1.35 million to renovate and rehabilitate the Noble Park Pool including a new pool liner, filtration and disinfection systems, slides, spray pad, and concession area.
- Ordinance approved for the purchase of a \$157,677 rear packer refuse collection truck from TAG Truck Center.
- Ordinance approved for the renewal of City Manager Pederson's three-year employment agreement. The agreement also calls for an increase in allotted vacation days and salary.



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- Ordinance introduced (vote April 15) to accept the Kentucky Office of Highway Safety grant in the amount of \$30,000 to be used by the Police Department for overtime hours related to traffic safety campaign that will span from this week through mid-May. No local match is required.
- The Paducah Riverfront Development Authority (PRDA) will present its recommendations regarding the Riverfront Redevelopment Project at the April 15 City Commission meeting.
- City Manager Jeff Pederson who serves on the Paducah-McCracken County Animal Task Force expects the task force to finalize its recommendations later this month. Pederson says the City also will review its animal control policies in conjunction with the recommendations.
- The Downtown Farmers' Market will open April 23. A grand opening ceremony will be held in May.

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