



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at City Hall

North 34th Street Intersection at Pines Road and Railroad Crossing Presentation

Representatives of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, Canadian National Railroad, and HMB Professional Engineers, Inc. attended the City Commission meeting to discuss the Pines Road and North 34th Street project. That intersection, which includes a railroad crossing, has been identified as one of the eight most dangerous railroad crossings in Kentucky. Wes Mattingly with HMB says, "The purpose of this project is to improve safety." Currently there is a railroad signal at the crossing. Mattingly adds, "Even though there is a light, it doesn't stop people from crossing." One option to improve safety, considered but not recommended, involved installing crossing gates on Pines Road and on North 34th Street. However, due to the configuration of the intersection, the gates on North 34th would be set back from the tracks which could cause a vehicle to get caught between the gates and the tracks. Mattingly says a driver might panic and try to cross the tracks in the path of a train. The recommended option is to turn North 34th Street into a dead-end street at Pines Road and install crossing gates on Pines Road. The project will cost an estimated \$85,000 and will be funded by the State and by the railroad. Construction will begin this fall and will last about a month. A large turnaround space will be constructed at the end of North 34th Street to allow buses and public safety vehicles to maneuver.

Paducah-McCracken County Joint Sewer Agency Rate Adjustment

Paducah-McCracken County Joint Sewer Agency Executive Director John Hodges briefed the Mayor and Commissioners about a rate adjustment. The rate will increase from \$4.35 to \$4.43 per 1000 gallons. Hodges says, "The average household uses 5000 gallons per month. The impact to the average homeowner in Paducah and McCracken County is 40 cents per month." The rate adjustment is in accordance with the April consumer price index for all urban consumers ("CPI-U").

Memorandum of Understanding with Genova Products

The Mayor and Commissioners approved an ordinance for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Michigan-based Genova Products, Greater Paducah Economic Development Council (GPEDC), McCracken County, and the City of Paducah. The MOU is for Genova to locate a plastics-manufacturing facility in the former Infiniti Plastics building located at 5400 Commerce Drive in Industrial Park West (also known as the I-24 Park). In the agreement Genova would hire and maintain 125 full time employees within 10 years. The City and County own the 100,000 square foot building. Genova would lease the facility. Genova is working to receive economic incentives from the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

City of Paducah Fiscal Year 2015 Budget (vote June 24)

The Mayor and Commissioners introduced an ordinance for the Fiscal Year 2015 City of Paducah Budget. The City's fiscal year begins July 1. The vote for the budget ordinance will be June 24. At the May 27 budget workshop City Manager Jeff explained that even though the General Fund revenue has not returned to pre-recession growth, the City is seeing a small reversal in the negative annual trend revenue. Each department prepared their budgets for the upcoming fiscal year allowing for a 2% budgetary increase. Revenues for this upcoming fiscal year, which starts July 1, are projected at \$31.6 million, a growth of more than 3%. The majority of the City's budget is in the general fund, the City's main operating fund. Adding together the revenue sources, interfund transfers, and an allocation from the cash reserve, Paducah's General Fund will operate with nearly \$33.2 million. The four main sources of revenue for the General Fund are payroll tax, insurance premium tax, business license tax, and property tax. The City operates its finances through several funds including the general fund, investment fund, police and fire pension fund, solid waste fund, fleet lease trust fund, and health insurance trust fund.

Pump Station Repairs (vote June 24)

The Mayor and Commissioners introduced an ordinance to pay Precision Machine, Inc. \$134,673 for the emergency repair and total reconstruction of one of the seven pumps located at Floodwall Pump Station #2 at 1416 North 6th Street. One of the pumps became disabled in May 2013, but due to high water at the time, the pump could not be removed and inspected until last August. After inspection, it was determined that the pump needed to be reconstructed as quickly as possible before additional high water. Pump Station #2 is a crucial station in protecting the City and reducing the potential for flooding. It is



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the first pump station that begins operating when the Ohio River reaches a river stage of 27.5 feet. Additional pump stations go on line as the river rises.

Quick Highlights

- Elizabeth Behrens, a Paducah Tilghman High School 2014 graduate, and Michaela Jones, a St. Mary High School 2014 graduate, were recognized as the 2014 Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship recipients.
- Mayor Kaler presented a Duke and Duchess of Paducah to William “Bill” Usher and to Ginger Usher for their work through the years on the Shop with a Cop program.
- Boards and Commissions: Mary Hoy reappointed to Board of Assessment Appeals; Zachary McMillan, Landee Bryant Woodruff, Darlene Mazzone, Maurie McGarvey, and Sharon Poat appointed to Main Street Board;
- Ordinance approved for an interlocal agreement between the City and McCracken County for the 2014-2015 Edward Byrne Memorial grant through the Department of Justice. The grant award in the amount of \$13,117 is for the purchase of radios for the Paducah Police Department.
- Ordinance introduced (vote June 24) for a contract with the Paducah Convention & Visitors Bureau to appropriate \$25,000 from the Investment Fund for the marketing and promotion of AQS QuiltWeek™.
- McNabb Elementary students will have a lemonade stand at the school on Thursday from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m. Donations will help defray the costs of a school field trip to Land Between the Lakes.
- Mark your calendars for Showcase Paducah. On July 19 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. downtown businesses will be open and empty buildings will be available for viewing with the hope of attracting new investment. Contact Downtown Development Specialist Melinda Winchester at 270-444-8690 for more information.

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