



## City Commission Meeting Highlights Tuesday, July 12, 2011

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### **New Executive Director of National Quilt Museum**

The Mayor and Commissioners welcomed Frank Bennett, the new Executive Director of the National Quilt Museum, to the Commission meeting. Bennett, most recently from Dallas, Texas, is an acclaimed business writer and consultant. Bennett says, "In working with the museum, I can help an organization grow that creates an experience that stays with someone for the rest of their life." Bennett provided several statistics about the National Quilt Museum including 148 visitors from 18 states visited the museum today. Bennett adds that his goal is to market the museum so that people feel it is a place that they must visit.

### **SIU Graduate Students Provide Input on Fountain Avenue Neighborhood Revitalization**

Public Information Officer Pam Spencer spotlighted the work by Southern Illinois University graduate students who are taking an eight-week summer class that requires the completion of two projects focusing on Paducah's Fountain Avenue Neighborhood. The course, ARC 550 Regional Architecture Studio, requires the students to work as teams to provide proposals, 3D computer models, and cost estimates on rehabilitating four homes owned by Urban Renewal in the Fountain Avenue Neighborhood. The final proposals and cost estimates will be posted on [www.fountainave.com](http://www.fountainave.com) to give future homebuyers ideas and estimates on rehabilitating the homes. The students also are creating individual projects that provide conceptual plans for a multi-story, multi-use residential/commercial/recreational project for the city-owned property located at 14<sup>th</sup> and Madison Streets. The individual projects provide ideas of how the property could be developed in the future. The students have been coordinating the work with the City's Planning Department and with Sharon Poat of the Midtown Alliance of Neighbors.

### **Refinancing of 2004 Bond**

The Mayor and Commissioners approved an ordinance to refinance the bond issued in May 2004. Refinancing the bond will save \$500,000 in interest over the bond's life. In 2004, the City issued \$5.0 million in bonds to finance the construction of an industrial building in Industrial Park West for Infiniti Media. The bond is scheduled to be paid in full by 2024.

### **Grant Approved for Greenway Trail Extension (vote July 26)**

The Mayor and Commissioners introduced an ordinance to accept a grant in the amount of \$500,000 through the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's Transportation Enhancement Program. The grant requires a local cash match of \$150,000. The City applied for the grant in 2009. The grant funds will be used to extend the greenway trail west through the 80-acre Perkins Creek Nature Preserve. The project includes the construction of 4000 feet (0.76 mile) of trail, a gravel parking lot, a wooden railway, and bridge. Mayor Bill Paxton says that a long list of environmental requirements needs to be met before the project can begin. It is too soon to provide a date that construction would begin.

### **Accept Contract for Services with Agencies (vote July 26)**

Commissioners introduced ordinances for contracts with the following agencies for fiscal year 2012:

- Barkley Regional Airport \$146,430
- Carson Center \$68,875
- Convention Center Corporation \$175,000



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- EntrePaducah \$100,000
- GPEDC \$300,000
- Paducah Area Transit System \$225,000
- Paducah Junior College, Inc. \$125,000 (for Community Scholarship Program)
- Paducah Junior College, Inc. \$75,000 (for Paducah School of Art operational expenses for school's two locations, 409 Broadway and 919 Madison Street)

Several other agencies including Maiden Alley Cinema and Market House Theatre received funding for fiscal year 2012. However, since each of their funding amounts is less than \$20,000, ordinances are not required.

### **Quick Highlights:**

- **Boards and Commissions:** The following are reappointed to the Civic Beautification Board: Rosa Scott, Paula Bright, Mary Lynn Thompson, Phyllis Stovesand, Henry Barbour, Lisa Hely, Chuck Wahl, Andrea Higdon-Lane, Kathy Keeney, and Mary Hammond. The following are appointed to the Civic Beautification Board: Carol Vanderboegh, Dabney Haugh, and Alberta Davis. Cynthia Alston and LaVaugh Watson are reappointed to Paducah Area Transit System.
- Municipal order approved to lease the W.C. Young Community Center building located at 505 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the W.C. Young Community Center for \$1.00 per year through June 30, 2015. The lease can be extended for two additional three year consecutive terms.
- Municipal order approved to apply for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Act grant in the amount of \$23,121. If funded, the grant would be used to purchase equipment for the Police Department. No local match is required.
- Ordinance approved for a \$300,000 line of credit with FNB to be used for the construction of two new homes for the Fountain Avenue Neighborhood Revitalization Project. As each home is sold to a low to moderate income family, the borrowed money plus interest will be paid back to FNB by the new homeowner. FNB submitted the proposal with the lowest interest rate of 3.35 percent. In 2010, the City finished the last of nine homes utilizing a line of credit from a different bank.
- Ordinance approved to change the zoning for the property at 600 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street from R-4 (high density residential) to B-3 (general business). This is the 2.18-acre property on which the dome pavilion is located.
- Ordinance approved for the fiscal year 2011-2012 contract with Motorola for the 800 MHz radio controllers, department radios, 911 dispatch consoles and telephones, and other related radio equipment.
- Ordinance approved for the third amendment to the Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement with Sprint/Nextel and Motorola for the 800 MHz rebanding.
- Ordinance approved to accept the Law Enforcement Service Fee award from the Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet in the amount of \$15,833. The funds will to be used for overtime hours, mileage, and the purchase of in-car cameras to facilitate DUI enforcement. A local cash match of \$2400 is required.
- Ordinance approved to accept the Law Enforcement Protection Program award from the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security in the amount of \$3000 for the purchase of body armor. The funds will be used to purchase vests for the three canines and for one officer. No local cash match is required.
- Ordinance introduced (vote July 26) to accept a Household Hazardous Waste grant from the Kentucky Division of Waste Management in the amount of \$25,700 to assist with the cost of the April 2012 Spring Clean Up Day. The grant requires a local cash match of \$4500 each from the City and McCracken County.



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- Ordinance introduced (vote July 26) to approve the proposed premiums for fiscal year 2012 from the Kentucky League of Cities for workers' compensation, liability insurance, and property insurance. The total cost of all premiums is \$866,597.
- City Manager Jeff Pederson informed the Commission that tours will be available July 26 of the Prairie State campus in Illinois. Paducah Power is one of the partners in the facility.
- Local consultant Kristin Williams will be surveying various stakeholders to provide a critical analysis of the building, inspection, and permitting processes in Paducah and McCracken County. This is a suggestion stated in GPEDC's strategic plan.
- City Manager Pederson says the next informal meeting regarding the organization that has petitioned against the City's Riverfront Development project will be held July 25 in Frankfort.
- At this time, the July 19 Commission meeting will be cancelled.

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