



## City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, June 28, 2011

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### **Floodwall Presentation**

City Engineer-Public Works Director Rick Murphy provided an overview of the areas in the City and County that are protected by the floodwall. Murphy says many residents have questions about how the floodwall operates and how rising river water affects areas, especially the floodplain, located outside the floodwall. Murphy explained that Paducah is in an area that is affected by three basins: Missouri River, Mississippi River, and the Ohio River. Murphy says, "About 40 percent of the continental United States' water runoff comes by or near Paducah." In comparing the 1937 and 2011 flooding, Murphy showed rainfall graphics provided by the National Weather Service. Between January 1 and May 31 of 1937, Paducah received 33.33 inches of rainfall. During the same time period this year, Paducah received 38.25 inches of rain. Murphy says Paducah had to deal with worse weather conditions this year; however, the 80 reservoirs upstream of Paducah and the City's floodwall protected the City. Mayor Bill Paxton says, "I think we are the poster child for the Corps of Engineers in how the floodwall is supposed to be run." The floodwall protects 16.92 square miles of McCracken County with 8.02 of those square miles within the Paducah city limits. Murphy adds that the floodwall protects a total of 12,126 City structures and 5,052 County structures. That equals 60 percent of City structures and 11.4 percent of County structures outside the City limits that rely on the floodwall's protection. According to data from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, an estimated \$1.2 billion of assets are protected by Paducah's floodwall protection system. Murphy stresses that since receiving the floodwall and its operational schedule from the Corps of Engineers in 1949, the City of Paducah has solely operated and maintained the system. The City sets aside an annual budget of approximately \$500,000 for the floodwall maintenance and operations.

At the end of the presentation Murphy recognized Floodwall Superintendent Kenny Brannon for his work during this year's flooding. In talking about Brannon Murphy says, "I know this man here, he didn't sleep for 72 hours. I had to force him to go home." Murphy and Brannon thanked all the City staff for their teamwork during the flood event. Mayor Paxton says, "We are running a first class floodwall levee system."

### **Greater Paducah Economic Development Council Quarterly Report**

Chad Chancellor, Greater Paducah Economic Development Council (GPEDC) President and CEO, provided the Mayor and Commission an update on the organization's activities. Chancellor says GPEDC is working on 18 projects. He says five of the prospective businesses would employ more than 100 people. Chancellor says, "This has been the best quarter with activity since I've been here." Chancellor adds that in August GPEDC will begin the implementation of its strategic plan with dozens of face-to-face meetings with prospective businesses. GPEDC also has a new website [www.epaducah.com](http://www.epaducah.com). "I think it's going to be a huge recruiting tool for us," says Chancellor.

### **Fiscal Year 2012 Budget**

The Mayor and Commissioners approved an ordinance for the Fiscal Year 2012 City Budget. The City's fiscal year begins July 1. The City of Paducah maintains a \$43 million budget with the majority, \$30.4 million, in the general fund which is the City's main operating fund. The budget reflects the decision made at the July 7 budget workshop. The budget can be found on the City's website at [www.paducahky.gov](http://www.paducahky.gov).



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### **Refinancing of 2004 Bond (vote July 12)**

The Mayor and Commissioners introduced 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.

### **Fleet Maintenance Plan for Fiscal Year 2011-2012**

Commissioners approved a municipal order for the fiscal year 2011-2012 fleet maintenance plan. This municipal order does not purchase any specific piece of equipment; however, it outlines the expected purchases/retirements/reassignments of vehicles and equipment for the upcoming fiscal year. The expected purchases included in the fleet maintenance plan for FY2011-2012 total \$1,001,000. Twenty-one older model pieces of equipment/vehicles will be auctioned. The equipment and vehicles that will be purchased during the upcoming fiscal year are as follows:

- Police Department: Purchase 10 pursuit vehicles and one F550 truck with a hauler bed for a total cost of \$315,000.
- Fire Department: Purchase one pumper truck and a 1 ½ ton rescue truck for a total cost of \$550,000.
- Engineering-Public Works Facility Maintenance Division: Purchase one ½ ton pick-up truck for a total cost of \$29,000.
- Engineering-Public Works Floodwall Division: Purchase one ¾ ton pick-up truck for a total cost of \$43,000.
- Parks Services Department: Purchase two tractors for a total cost of \$64,000.
- Engineering-Public Works Fleet Maintenance Division: transfer one F250 pick-up truck from the Facility Maintenance Division.

### **Wall to Wall Mural Maintenance Contract**

The Mayor and Commissioners approved an ordinance to pay Herb Roe \$22,050 for the maintenance of the downtown floodwall murals. The Wall to Wall mural project began in 1996. To maintain the color and quality of the murals, paint refurbishing and fresh clear coatings are needed periodically. For this fiscal year, Herb Roe will provide the maintenance on five murals. The funding for the mural maintenance comes from the Investment Fund.

### **Quick Highlights:**

- Boards and Commissions: Sadona Withrow reappointed and Jay Collins appointed to the Paducah-McCracken County Senior Citizens Center Board of Directors.
- The Mayor and Commissioners did not approve a municipal order that would have waived the penalty for DUCMALL, LLC (Robbins Properties), the owner of the Paducah Center anchored by TJMaxx, Office Depot, PetSmart, and Books-A-Million. Robbins Properties asked for the waiving of a \$16,000 penalty. The penalty was assessed for past due business license taxes dating back to 2005.
- Ordinance approved revising Chapter 42, Nuisance Code Enforcement, of the Code of Ordinances. The two significant changes to the ordinance include changing the appeal time from the Nuisance Code Enforcement Board to District Court from seven to 30 days and limiting the maximum number of vehicles to four that can be kept in the open on private residential properties. For the purpose of the ordinance, the definition of "vehicle" does not mean car or trucks but instead means boats, campers, motorhomes, ATV's, trailers, etc.
- Ordinance approved accepting a grant through the Certified Local Government grant program administered by the Kentucky Heritage Council and the National Park Service. The grant is \$4950 with a local match of \$4,050. The funds will be used for the survey and administrative work necessary to petition for the expansion of the Jefferson Street/Fountain



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Avenue National Historic District Project. The proposed district expansion includes seven (7) full blocks and six (6) half blocks in the area northeast of Lang Park (Circle Park).

- Ordinance approved for an employment agreement with Cindy Medford to serve as Paducah's Human Resources Director. Medford currently is the City's Risk Manager. That function will become a part of the Human Resources Department.
- Ordinance approved for a contract with the Paducah Convention & Visitors Bureau in the amount of \$25,000 on behalf of the American Quilter's Society to be used for marketing and promoting of events related to the 2011 AQS Quilt Show. The funds provide a local match for a State Tourism grant.
- Ordinance introduced (vote July 12) 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 introduced (vote July 12) 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 introduced (vote July 12) 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 introduced (vote July 12) for the third amendment to the Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement with Sprint/Nextel and Motorola for the 800 MHz rebanding.
- Ordinance introduced (vote July 12) 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 introduced (vote July 12) 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.
- The Commission workshop for July 5 will be cancelled.

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