



## City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, March 22, 2011

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### **Contract Between the City and the Paducah Police Bargaining Unit**

The Mayor and Commission approved an ordinance for a three year contract between the City and the Bargaining Unit of Jackson Purchase Lodge 15 of the Fraternal Order of Police. The contract will be in effect starting July 1. Bargaining Unit President Sergeant Brian Laird says, "We have a good relationship with the City, and I think this shows that." Mayor Bill Paxton says, "We got this contract approved, and it was done in a very professional manner on both sides." Mirroring the recently approved contract between the City and IAFF, the contract with the Paducah Police Bargaining Unit provides for a 1%, 1.75%, and 2.5% increase in wages for the next three years respectively. Among other items, the contract revises the language to provide for greater flexibility and standardization of health insurance benefits, increases the annual clothing allowance amount, defines special duty assignments, and adopts a six month bid process for shift assignments.

### **Engineering and Ecological Consulting Contracts for Riverfront Redevelopment Project (vote April 12)**

The Mayor and Commission introduced two ordinances for additional engineering and consulting services on a time and materials basis in order to obtain permits and meet environmental compliance obligations for the Riverfront Redevelopment Project. The first ordinance is for a contract with Florence & Hutcheson, Inc. for engineering consulting services. The second ordinance is for a contract with Redwing Ecological Services for ecological consulting services. City Engineer-Public Works Director Rick Murphy explained that the purpose of the additional engineering and ecological consulting services is to address environmental concerns related to the mussels in the Ohio River. Mayor Bill Paxton says, "We are trying to build a riverfront for citizens of Paducah-McCracken County and surrounding areas. We have federal money for this project, but we are being held back by a concern for mussels on our riverfront. It's keeping us from building a beautiful facility for our citizens." Murphy says the planning for the Riverfront Redevelopment Project began in 2005. Since that time, the City has spent \$1.25 million for engineering design, environmental compliance, and permits fees.

### **Workshop for the Preservation and Restoration of Historic Properties**

The Mayor and Commission approved an ordinance to accept a grant through the Certified Local Government grant program administered by the Kentucky Heritage Council and the National Park Service. The grant award is \$4000 with a local cash match of \$3500. The funds will be used to hold a three day workshop sponsored by Paducah Renaissance Alliance, the Mid-Town Alliance of Neighbors, WKCTC, and the City of Paducah, on the preservation and restoration of historic properties. The target audience for the workshop is contractors and WKCTC students. The workshop will have hands-on demonstrations. Serenitea located at 121 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street has agreed to donate its facilities for the workshop which will be held April 14-16.

### **Purchase of Pumper Truck for Paducah Fire Department**

The Mayor and Commission approved an ordinance to accept the bid from Bluegrass Fire Equipment Company, Inc. for the purchase of a 2011 Triple Combination Pumper Truck for the Paducah Fire Department. The truck is manufactured by Pierce. If the City makes a prepayment for



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the total amount of the truck, it will save the City \$17,535. The truck will then cost \$403,130. The estimated time for delivery of the new pumper truck will be six months.

### **Purchase of X-Ray System and Portable Robot for Paducah Bomb Squad**

The Mayor and Commission approved two ordinances for the purchase of items to be used by the Paducah Bomb Squad. A Kentucky Homeland Security grant is funding the purchases. The first ordinance is for the purchase in the amount of \$60,485.17 of an x-ray system that is compatible with the Bomb Squad's existing robots. The x-ray system will provide digital real-time live x-ray video. The second ordinance is for the purchase in the amount of \$96,414 of a robot that is "field transformable". Depending upon the terrain, the robot can be re-configured from standard tires to a multi-track robot. Police Chief James Berry says, "This gives us robotic capability on buses, airplanes, as well as boats." The Paducah Bomb Squad is one of only five squads in the State of Kentucky. It responds to the 13 western counties in Kentucky and has responded to Southern Illinois.

### **Quick Highlights:**

- Spotlight: Public Information Officer Pam Spencer spotlighted the Fleet Maintenance Division of the Engineering-Public Works Department. This division repairs and maintains 192 City of Paducah vehicles and about 80 pieces of equipment including mowers.
- Boards and Commissions: Wanda Mullinax, William B. Sturgis, and Steve Kettler reappointed to the Paducah Golf Commission. William Jones reappointed to the Paducah McCracken County Industrial Development Authority. The following were appointed or reappointed to Paducah Main Street, Inc.: Carol Gault, Maurie McGarvey, Allen Rhodes, Harvey Sadow, Sharon Poat, Valerie Pollard, Patience Renzulli, John Campbell, Todd Duff, Brenda Caserta, and Robert Hopper (ex-officio).
- Municipal order approved to apply for a \$6000 safety grant from the Kentucky League of Cities. If awarded the funds would be used to purchase personal protective equipment and for registration to KMESHA. This grant requires a cash match of \$6000.
- Municipal orders approved for the Annual Plan for the Section 8 Housing Program, revisions to the Section 8 Housing Administrative Plan, and revisions to the Section 8 Housing Utility Allowances. For the utility allowances effective May 1, Section 8 residents will notice a 22.7% decrease in natural gas, 2.2% increase in sewer, 4.5% increase in propane, and 14% increase in electricity charges.
- Ordinance approved to use grant funds in the amount of \$50,000 through the Kentucky Department of Local Government to purchase five recycle containers for use by the Recycle Now facility located at 1830 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Ordinance introduced (vote April 12) to authorize the contract with Delta Dental for the City's dental insurance plan.
- Ordinance introduced (vote April 12) for a contract with Duckett Truck Center for the purchase of a refuse truck in the amount of \$138,110.
- Ordinance introduced (vote April 12) for a change order with Paducah Ford for the purchase of vehicles for the 2011 Fleet Plan. The change order increases the contract by \$3239 for a total contract of \$387,764. The change order adds a police vehicle to the contract but removes a pick-up truck resulting in the net increase of \$3239.

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