



City Commission Meeting Highlights

Tuesday, May 24, 2011

Legalization of Fireworks Within Paducah City Limits (vote June 14)

Effective March 2011, the State of Kentucky changed its laws regarding fireworks. In addition to additional reporting requirements, Kentucky now permits registered dealers to sell consumer fireworks such as bottle rockets to adults 18 years of age or older. Fireworks that explode or shoot into the air were previously illegal in Kentucky unless used by a licensed professional. To align with the changes in State law, the Mayor and Commission introduced an ordinance to permit the sale and discharge of fireworks in Paducah within a specific set of guidelines. Regarding the changes in the State law, Fire Chief Steve Kyle, says, "I'm not in favor of fireworks, but we have to adjust to the environment we have now." Chief Kyle says the changes in Paducah's ordinance would provide some control over the use and sale of fireworks and make sure it's done in a safe manner. The current City ordinance prevents the sale of fireworks except for use in permitted displays. The new ordinance under consideration by the Commission outlines that fireworks may be used within a specific set of hours on December 31 through January 2 and on July 3 through July 5. Also in the new ordinance, those under the age of 18 are not allowed to use fireworks, and fireworks are not to be used within 200 feet of any structure, motor vehicle, or other person. The new ordinance under consideration also outlines the guidelines and requirements for seasonal and permanent fireworks retailers.

Paducah Garden Club Tree Planting on Jefferson Street

Cindy Jones, chairperson of the Paducah Garden Club, provided the Mayor and Commission an overview of the Garden Club's efforts to increase the number of trees along Jefferson Street. Jones says the Club is planting 100 trees on Jefferson to replace trees lost during the January 2009 ice storm. This also is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Garden Club. Commissioner Gayle Kaler says, "A hundred years from now when we are all gone, people will still see these wonderful trees on Jefferson." Jones says that last year the members of the Club started mapping all the trees along Jefferson from Fountain Avenue to Central. Locations of fixed objects such as monuments, light posts, and sprinklers also were noted. Large canopy trees that will be planted include ginkgo, oak varieties, cypress, black gum, and tulip poplar. The first 25 large canopy trees were planted in April. This fall another 25 will be planted. In 2012 and 2013, 50 understory trees such as dogwoods will be planted.

Noble Park Pool House Renovations

Public Information Officer Pam Spencer spotlighted the recent renovations to the interior of the Noble Park pool house. Over the winter, Engineering-Public Works staff and Parks Department staff have been stripping the layers of paint as well as old shelving and fixtures from the building. The building has a fresh coat of paint along with new plumbing fixtures and bathroom stall partitions. A contractor currently is working to replace the glass block windows, many of which have been boarded up for years. New exterior lighting is in the plan. The lights will be brighter but more energy efficient. The Noble Park Pool opens for business on Friday, June 3 and will be open through August 7. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon until 6:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m. The pool house building was constructed in the late 1930s as a Civilian Conservation Corps project.



Contact: Pam Spencer, Public Information Officer
City of Paducah • P.O. Box 2267 • Paducah, Kentucky 42002
270/444-8669 • Office 270/443-5058 • Fax

<http://www.paducahky.gov> Email: pspencer@ci.paducah.ky.us

Quick Highlights:

- J.D. Chaney, Kentucky League of Cities Director of Governmental Affairs, provided the Mayor and Commission a overview of the 2011 State legislative session focusing on bills that affect cities. For more information, visit www.klc.org.
- Ordinance approved adopting the procurement code for the Jackson House elevator project.
- Ordinance approved to purchase and program 15 portable radios for the Police Department at a cost of \$21,600.
- Ordinance approved to purchase eight digital in-car cameras for the Police Department at a cost of \$38,360.
- Ordinance introduced (vote June 14) to authorize the payment in the amount of \$29,788.89 to AES Environmental LLC for the collection and disposal of household hazardous waste from the April 16, 2011 Spring Clean Up Day event.
- Neighborhood Walks will resume this spring. This will be the third year for the Commission to hold a walking event to get to know citizens. The date for the next Neighborhood Walk is Saturday, June 4 at 10:00 a.m. The neighborhood will be the west end of the Wallace Park subdivision next to Barkley Woods, the location of the Murray State University Paducah Campus.

###



Contact: Pam Spencer, Public Information Officer
City of Paducah • P.O. Box 2267 • Paducah, Kentucky 42002

270/444-8669 • Office 270/443-5058 • Fax

<http://www.paducahky.gov> Email: pspencer@ci.paducah.ky.us