



Called City Commission Meeting Highlights Monday, November 5, 2012

Support for TeleTech Services Corporation Partnership (vote November 13)

After first meeting in closed session for nearly 45 minutes, the Mayor and Commissioners introduced an ordinance to support and authorize Greater Paducah Economic Development Council, Inc. (GPEDC) to partner with TeleTech Services Corporation. TeleTech plans to bring to Paducah a customer care center, a call-center, that would have 450 full-time employees with benefits. The jobs would have a minimum salary of \$9.50 per hour. Mayor Bill Paxton says, "I think we have a deal here that's going to be good for everybody." TeleTech was founded in 1982 and has offices in 17 countries. Commissioner Gerald Watkins says, "This is a home run for Paducah, and the first of many coming down the road."

In this ordinance, the city-owned Commerce Center located at 401 Kentucky Avenue would be transferred to GPEDC for \$1.00. Teletech would renovate and use the Commerce Center for a portion of its operations with 150 employees stationed there. Teletech also plans to construct a building on McCracken Boulevard in the Paducah Commerce Park (formerly known as Information Age Park) for the remaining 300 employees. TeleTech would have a total annual payroll of \$9 million which would bring \$180,000 in local payroll taxes to the City and County. Also, in this ordinance the City of Paducah would allocate up to \$1.35 million to the renovation and construction projects. GPEDC and McCracken County also are sharing in providing funds for the renovation and construction projects by providing \$1.5 million and \$1.35 million, respectively. GPEDC President/CEO Chad Chancellor says bringing TeleTech to Paducah would have a multiplier effect in generating additional jobs. Chancellor says using a U.S. Chamber of Commerce multiplier, an additional 120-150 jobs would be created to help service TeleTech.

The Mayor and Commissioners thanked the GPEDC Board of Directors, Chad Chancellor, and the McCracken County Fiscal Court for their work in negotiating the deal with TeleTech.

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Pam Spencer, Public Information Officer
City of Paducah • P.O. Box 2267 • Paducah, Kentucky 42002
270/444-8669 • Office 270/443-5058 • Fax
Website: <http://paducahky.gov> Email: pspencer@paducahky.gov