

# Harrodsburg commission votes to proceed with paving five streets

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The Harrodsburg City Commission voted to proceed with paving five city streets, but it's still unclear when the work will begin.

At the city commission's regular meeting on Monday, Aug. 24, Chief Administrative Officer Stacey Maynard said she wanted to clear up any confusion regarding paving.

The city commission has held two public hearings on paving. In March, they approved a list of streets—including Larchmont Avenue, Linden Avenue, Veterans Park Drive, North Main Street, Commerce Drive, Cedar Street, Magnolia Street north from Broadway to the dead end Hill Street, Forsythe Street, Daisy Street, Bacon Court and the city owned portion of Sleepy Hollow Road—that would be advertised for bids. In April, they awarded the paving bid to Mago Construction, the only bidder.

Maynard noted the commission had not approved actually paving the streets.

On Monday, she broke it down into three sections, beginning with the five streets that will be paid for through a \$224,000 grant from the Local Assistance Road Program—Larchmont, Linden, Veterans Park, Commerce and North Main. Maynard said the city will not receive the funding until paving is complete.

"We have to pay for it and get reimbursed for it," she said.

In addition, the city approved paving three streets on May 26, which would cost \$69,000.

"Those have not been done yet," Maynard said.

The next section of five streets has all been put on the bidding list.

"We've not approved paving it," Maynard said.

All the streets together will cost about \$615,000 to pave, but the city is only receiving the \$224,000 LARP grant.

"We don't even have the money to do the streets right now, today," Maynard said. Harrodsburg does not have the money to pave the other streets. She noted the city only

gets municipal aid funds in quarterly installments, and they need to purchase road salt.

"It kind of puts us all in a bind," Maynard said.

"What streets can we pave right now?" Commissioner Charlie Mattingly asked.

Maynard recommended doing the LARP streets first. That way, the city could use the federal reimbursement to pave the other streets on the list. However, that left the question of when those streets would get paved up in the air.

Maynard recommended waiting to pave the other streets on the list in spring 2027.

Commissioner Mattingly questioned Cedar Street's need for resurfacing.

"I don't know how it's on the list," Mattingly said.

"We didn't approve it," Maynard said. "We approved getting a quote on it."

Mayor Bob Williams said he's getting calls about Sleepy Hollow Road. Mattingly said he's also getting calls asking for work to be done to Magnolia Street.

"I've been getting a lot of calls," Mattingly said. "It's bad."

City officials hope to receive reimbursement to pave the remaining streets in the spring.

Maynard said they will apply for more LARP funds in October.

"We need to go ahead and do it," said Mayor Williams, who moved to begin paving the LARP-funded streets as soon as possible. Commissioner Jack Coleman seconded Williams' motion, which passed unanimously.

Frank Lukitsch, the director of public works, said Mago would pave the five streets before the plant closes this year.

On Monday, the city commission also approved getting a quote on repaving the Harrodsburg Police Department's parking lot.

"We have kicked the can down the road," said Maynard, who called the parking lot "a mess."

"We're buying new cruisers; we don't need to tear them up on a pothole in our own parking lot," she said.

passed unanimously.

## Athletic Stadium Construction

On Thursday, the Mercer County Board of Education approved paying Daktronics \$424,116 to install three video boards.

Superintendent Jason Booher said the main board, which would measure 25 feet by 36 feet, would be as big as any one in the commonwealth.

School officials have discussed adding a high school class to operate the board. There is also the possibility for video ads.

"You should be able to wake up everybody in the community," Milam said.

Superintendent Booher said money had been set aside for the video boards because the construction bids came in so low.

"You will not get it any cheaper," Milam told the board. He called it "a smart move."

The board also approved a change order for the Athletic Complex at Mercer County Senior High School, decreasing the amount paid to All Phase Electric Supply Company by \$17,301. Milam said the contractor revised the design, including eliminating three exterior lights, which lowered the cost.

Milam called construction of the stadium complex "orchestrated chaos." He said contractors were working on the infrastructure—including electrical conduits—that will eventually go under the stadium's foundation.

Mayor Williams moved to get a quote, which Commissioner Mattingly seconded. It passed unanimously.

They also approved applying for a \$1,250,000 Community Development Block Grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Riverview Water Main Replacement project.

In other business, the Harrodsburg City Commission:

- Proclaimed Tree Week in Harrodsburg, which will run from Friday, Oct. 9, through Sunday, Oct. 18. The commissioners also appointed Patrick Smith to fill out an unexpired term on the Harrodsburg Tree Board, which is planning Tree Week activities.
- Ruth Webb—who is serving as interim chair of the tree board after Doug Miell's resignation—said Smith is a Harrodsburg resident with 20 years of experience in the technology and cybersecurity field. Webb said Smith has volunteered with the tree board since moving to town.
- "We're looking forward to having Patrick join us on the tree board," Webb said Monday.
- She also said Smith will make the board's next report to the commission and introduce himself.
- Webb said the tree board is planning activities for Tree Week, including tree plantings on Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Tank Memorial on College Street and at Anderson-Dean Community Park on Saturday, Oct. 17.

In addition, the tree board is planning to host a speaker from the TreesLouisville organization and the Mercer County Cooperative Extension Office will hold a presentation on how not to kill a tree. Webb said the tree board will also host a tree walk and volunteer work at Big Spring. Webb said the tree board encourages everyone to participate in events.

- Proclaimed Constitution Week in Harrodsburg from Thursday, Sept. 17, through Thursday, Sept. 24. Susan McGinnis, regent of the Jane McAfee Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, said

Board member Billy G. Montgomery asked about conduit being laid between the buildings. Milam said he didn't know about empty conduits being laid for possible future use.

Superintendent Booher said contractors had laid extra conduit for the baseball and softball complex.

"Let me look into that," Milam said. He said they are at the point where they could "slip something in."

Next month, their goal is to complete the parking lot grading and begin preparing to install the foundation.

Milam said they will soon start doing videos to share with the board.

Board member Cliff Prewitt asked about the road-side.

"How's that going to look when it's finished?" Prewitt asked.

Milam said they are removing rock and grading it back to a slope. When that is finished, he said they'll pour a concrete slab.

**MCES Construction**

On Thursday night, the Mercer County Board of Education approved paying RossTarrant Architects \$25,500 to perform a feasibility study of the former Mercer County Elementary School building.

At a working meeting in July, Superintendent Jason Booher led board members on a tour of the 120,000-square-foot facility, followed by a discussion of their options, which include demolishing it, keeping it, or knocking down the front of the building and leaving the

gym standing.

"You can't have enough gyms in a school system," Superintendent Jason Booher said Thursday. But they need to determine if that's feasible.

Beth Bauer of Ross-Tarrant Architects said the study would take up to three months.

The board also approved a change order for the new MCES building, paying the construction manager, Trace Creek Construction, \$13,500 for July on-site service fee. The board previously approved an on-site fee for June.

"What constitutes being on site?" asked board member Cliff Prewitt.

"Being on site," said David Milam, vice president for Central Kentucky at Trace Creek. Milam said that meant having at least one man on site to handle anything that came up.

"We won't do it again in August," Milam said.

He told the board contractors were wrapping up a few punch list items, working around the school's schedule. That includes placing sod in front of the school.

The board also approved another MCES change order paying Fayette Electric \$808.86 to add an electrical outlet in the kiln room. Milam said once the kiln was installed, they learned the fan needed a dedicated outlet. He said it aligned with an extra outlet the board had previously requested.

Finally, they approved a change order deducting

Constitution Week celebrates the signing of the Constitution.

"We are still in the planning stages for the celebration," McGinnis said Monday.

Thursday, Sept. 17, is Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, which recognizes the adoption of the United States Constitution in 1787 as well as those who have become U.S. citizens.

This year marks the 237th anniversary of the Constitution's drafting.

- Ruth Ann Bryant and Bruce Mundy of the Harrodsburg-Mercer County African American Historical Society were slated to make a presentation at Monday's meeting, but Mayor Williams said they were unable to attend.
- The mayor said the organization is requesting permission to install historical grave markers for Phillip West, a custodian at Shaker Village; Dr. John-James Anderson, who established the Unity Hill Sanatorium, a tuberculosis treatment clinic in Somerset; and Betsy Coleman, the first African-American optometrist. Mayor Williams said the society is applying for a grant.
- Authorized City Attorney Norrie Currens to write a letter of cancellation for a fire truck on order from Seagrave Fire Apparatus
- Accepted Patrolman Hunter Kelly's resignation from the Harrodsburg Police Department effective Aug. 28.

The commission also voted to accept Greyson Evans' resignation as executive director of the Harrodsburg-Mercer County Industrial Development Authority effective Aug. 31.

Evans has accepted a new role as president and CEO of the Danville Boyle County Development Corporation. Commissioner Jack Coleman jokingly voted against accepting the resignation. It passed three to one.

The next scheduled meeting of the Harrodsburg City Commission will be Monday, Sept. 14, at noon at Harrodsburg City Hall (208 South Main Street). A calendar with meeting dates and other information is available online at harrodsburgky.gov.

## Local

Jury on Tuesday, Aug. 18, and taken into custody by Game Warden C. Cornett of the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, according to the uniform citation. He is being held at Woodford County Detention Center on a \$1,000,000 bond, according to the jail website.

Casey has also been named as a defendant in two lawsuits filed by Antonina Svintozelskaya, Andrew Fomin and Lina Fomin in Mercer Circuit Court.

In the first suit, Casey is being sued for negligence, gross negligence and failure to render aid.

The plaintiffs, who are parents of the minor children who were on board the pontoon boat on Herrington Lake on July 4, are asking for damages related to the collision.

In the lawsuit, the plaintiffs say Casey was operating a 2017 Axis watercraft with an outboard Monsoon engine on Herrington Lake.

In the moments leading up to the collision, the plaintiffs say Casey operated his watercraft in "a reckless and dangerous manner by driving at an excessive rate of speed, performing repeated 'donuts' and other erratic maneuvers" while in close proximity to other boaters during a busy holiday weekend.

The plaintiffs are accusing Casey of accelerating his watercraft as he "approached the plaintiffs' stationary pontoon boat."

"Several of the plaintiffs saw the oncoming boat and waved and screamed to get his attention," according to the lawsuit.

The plaintiffs say Casey's watercraft "violently struck plaintiffs' pontoon boat head-on, causing catastrophic damage to the pontoon boat," throwing occupants about the watercraft and into the water.

One of the passengers on the pontoon, Nazar Svintozelskiy, 25, of Nicholasville, was ejected into the

## Mercer

month.

"It mainly helps us at the park," said Cox, who noted the siren was about 10 feet from the bleachers at the softball field at Anderson-Dean Community Park. Cox noted that moving the siren would be expensive.

"We've canceled it a lot of times strictly because of park activities," he said.

"If it's a bad weather day, we're not going to have any test," Cox said. "I don't want any confusion."

Whenever they cancel a drill, they will notify the public via social media.

Next week, Cox said they are meeting with local officials to notify them of the change.

Judge-Executive Sarah Steele said there will be a meeting with the City of Burgin, the Harrodsburg City Commission, the Mercer County Fiscal Court and the Harrodsburg-Mercer County Planning and Zoning Com-

### The Harrodsburg Herald

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1967 – JANE BIRD HUTTON – 1990  
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