

Paris City Commission
525 High Street Paris, KY 40361
Commission Chambers – Room 121
Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The Paris City Commission and the Bourbon County Fiscal Court met in a workshop session at 10:35 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:

City of Paris: Mayor, John Plummer; Commissioner, Wallis Brooks; Commissioner, Tim Gray; Commissioner, Sharon Fields; Commissioner, Stan Galbraith.

Fiscal Court: Judge Executive Micheal Williams, Magistrate Bill Conner; Magistrate, Kristal Cameron, Magistrate, Todd Earlywine; Magistrate, Lewis Stubblefield.

Others in attendance: City Manager, Jamie Miller; Assistant City Manager, Kevin Mayhorn; City Attorney, Bryan Beauman; Assistant County Attorney, Terry Towles; CPA, Brad Oberlander; City Clerk & Treasurer, Stephanie Settles; Bourbon Fiscal Court Treasurer, Dana Boone.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion was held regarding the operations and functionality of the Jointly Funded E911 Central Dispatch Center. It was affirmed that the center is currently operating at a nearly full staffing capacity.

Discussion was held regarding the costs associated with maintaining Emergency Medical Services (EMS) equipment and the billing rates necessary for the community to continue providing services. It was also noted that the EMS budget is currently facing underfunded shortages.

Discussion was held regarding the need for expansion of parks and recreation activities for individuals of all ages. It was determined that the hiring of a Parks Program Director was essential to oversee these activities and manage the associated budget. However, the Fiscal Court chose not to hire a Program Director due to financial constraints. The decision not to staff this position rests with the Fiscal Court, as they possess the authority for personnel decisions concerning the Program Director position.

Discussion was held regarding a vacancy within the Jointly funded Planning and Zoning Office for the position of Building Inspector.

Discussion was held regarding the sanitary sewer line extending from Millersburg Road to the new park. The sewer line being installed for multi-use purposes, exceeding its original intent. Funds initially allocated for the potential water tower project were reallocated to support the sewer project. In May 2024, four options were presented to the City Commission. The combination of a forced main and gravity-fed option was selected, which will supply sanitary sewer services and provide the capacity for up to 858 acres to connect to the sewer line. The initial project cost was estimated at \$2 million, but the scope of the project has since expanded, increasing the cost to \$3.3 million. It was noted that funding from the Cleaner Water initiative must be fully utilized by 2026.

Discussion was held regarding the construction of two multipurpose artificial turf fields at the new park, which are scheduled to begin on February 15th, with an anticipated completion date of October 2025. The project will result in multiple fields being available for simultaneous use. The contract for the development of the two fields is valued at \$7 million, and the fields will be equipped with artificial turf, ensuring that games can continue without cancellations due to inclement weather or wet conditions. The fields will be larger than a standard high school football field, with approximate dimensions of 300 x 500 feet. The design will allow for the simultaneous play of up to 8 soccer games or 6 baseball games.

Discussion was held regarding the completion of the US 460 construction project. It was reported that the Transportation Cabinet has nearly completed the right-of-way acquisition for the Scott County side of US 460 and is currently engaged in negotiations with utility companies to relocate utilities in preparation for the project. The new bridge on Elizabeth Station Road has been completed. Additionally, the installation of red flashing lights at the Centerville 4-way stop has been finalized; however, the lights are currently awaiting activation by Kentucky Utilities.

Discussion was held regarding the Bourbon and Nicholas County Fiscal Court's involvement in the development of a joint industrial park, located just across the county line of Millersburg. Bourbon Fiscal Court has finalized a request for an additional \$4 million for the purpose of excavation on the property. Kentucky Utilities (KU) has been installing the necessary infrastructure to supply adequate water to the Joint Industrial Park and to the City of Millersburg. The Nicholas and Bourbon County Fiscal Courts are both represented on the Bourbon County Joint Economic Development Board concerning the industrial park. The board consists of three representatives from the Nicholas County Fiscal Court and three representatives from the Bourbon County Fiscal Court and they each have their own legal counsel. Dana Boone is responsible for managing the accounts and issuing payments. The industrial park spans a total of 100 acres.

Discussion was held regarding the development of a strategic plan for the City of Paris. The Commission will engage in a workshop focused on exploring future funding opportunities. The workshop will assess the current state of the city and project its status over the next ten years. The input gathered during these sessions will inform the creation of a long-term plan to guide the city's development and initiatives in the coming years. An invitation was extended to the Fiscal Court to attend and participate in the workshop.

A joint meeting has been scheduled for April 3rd at the Paris-Bourbon County Library at 6:00 p.m., during which the budgets for multiple jointly funded agencies will be presented. The City and County will discuss the available funds from both entities to ensure consistency and alignment in the contributions between the two agencies.

A suggestion was proposed by Judge Executive Michael Williams for consideration in the City of Paris strategic plan regarding the potential merging of the City and County governments. No attendees provided comments or feedback on the suggestion.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Attest:
City Clerk, Stephanie Settles

Mayor, John A. Plummer