

**City OF NEWPORT, KY**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Monday, March 28, 2016**  
**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Peluso at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Newport Municipal Building at 998 Monmouth Street. The meeting was opened with a moment for silent invocation and the mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**In attendance** were: Commissioner Beth Fennell Commissioner Thomas Guidugli, Commissioner John Hayden, Commissioner Frank Peluso, and Mayor Jerry Peluso. Also in attendance were: City Manager Thomas Fromme, City Attorney Daniel Braun, Police Chief Thomas Collins, Acting Fire Chief Randy Childress, Code Enforcement Director Brian Steffen, Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark, CFO C.R. Wirthlin, Senior Finance Officer Lenny Kuntz, Community Liaison Bev Holiday, and City Clerk Amy Able.

**PERSONNEL ORDERS**

The city clerk read Order **R-2016-021, promoting Adam Peddicord to the position of Captain in Newport Fire/EMS Department.** Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Acting Chief Childress stated Capt. Peddicord is a paramedic, has been in charge of the EMS Division, has earned a master's degree in nursing and recently became a nurse practitioner; he is an asset to the department. Capt. Peddicord was congratulated and introduced his family. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

<b>Commissioner Guidugli: Yes</b>	<b>Commissioner Hayden: Yes</b>	<b>Mayor Peluso: Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Fennell: Yes</b>	<b>Commissioner Peluso: Yes</b>	<b><u>Motion carried 5-0.</u></b>

**PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS & PROCLAMATIONS**

The city clerk read Order **R-2016-022, authorizing issuance of a proclamation designation April as "Fair Housing Month".** Commissioner Peluso made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Hayden. Mayor Peluso read the proclamation. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

<b>Commissioner Peluso: Yes</b>	<b>Commissioner Fennell: Abstain</b>	<b>Mayor Peluso: Yes</b>
<b>Commissioner Hayden: Yes</b>	<b>Commissioner Guidugli: Yes</b>	<b><u>Motion carried 5-0.</u></b>

Mayor Peluso presented Cannoli Awards to recent Tri-Ed Thoroughbred Award winners, Marlene Vaicius of Studio Vertuand Kevin Long of The David J. Joseph Company and to Bev Holiday who was recently presented the Star of Tourism award by the Northern Kentucky CVB.

The FY 2014-2015 Audit was presented by Heather Cochran of Ray, Foley, Hensley and Company, PLLC.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

No one present responded to the Mayor's invitation to address the Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to approve the minutes: of the regular meeting held February 22, 2016; the special meeting held February 29, 2016, and the caucus meeting held March 14, 2016;** second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Fennell:	Yes	Commissioner Hayden:	Abstain	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Guidugli:	Yes	Commissioner Peluso:	Yes		<u>Motion carried 5-0.</u>

## OLD BUSINESS

### NEW BUSINESS

The city clerk read Order **R-2016-023**, **declaring certain personal property of the City of Newport as surplus** and authorizing disposal in accordance with state law. Commissioner Hayden made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Acting Chief Childress explained this concerns an older ambulance and is an effort to reduce maintenance costs as there is an opportunity to buy a used vehicle in much better condition. The purchase of the (newer) used unit will help delay the purchase of a new unit for a few more years. He thanked Capt. Klaserner for researching and negotiating the purchase and trade. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Hayden:	Yes	Commissioner Guidugli:	Yes	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Fennell:	Yes	Commissioner Peluso:	Yes		<u>Motion carried 5-0.</u>

The city clerk read Order **R-2016-024**, authorizing and directing the city manager to **issue a purchase order for the purchase of one 2006 Horton Medic Unit** for use in the Newport Fire/EMS Department. Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Fennell:	Yes	Commissioner Hayden:	Yes	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Guidugli:	Yes	Commissioner Peluso:	Yes		<u>Motion carried 5-0.</u>

The city clerk read Order **R-2016-025**, authorizing the city manager to execute and so **approving an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement** between the City of Newport and the city of Covington, **creating the Northern Kentucky River Cities Unified Police System (NKRCUPS)**. Chief Collins explained this will allow cases initiated by one department to move forward with investigations without transferring responsibility to the other. Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Peluso. Mayor Peluso directed that the City Manager should send a letter expressing thanks to Covington for their cooperation. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Peluso:	Yes	Commissioner Hayden:	Yes	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Guidugli:	Yes	Commissioner Fennell:	Yes		<u>Motion carried 5-0.</u>

The city clerk gave first reading of tentative number **O-2016-003** an ordinance amending Section 151.02 of the Code of Ordinances, concerning **designation of electrical inspector and adoption of fees**. Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Steffen addressed the Board explaining the City has not had an electrical inspector on staff for a number of years so, like other cities this size, we contract with an inspector. The State now mandates that fees be included in the Ordinance. There have been no changes to the contract or the fees charged through the third party (Steve Helmer Inspections). The rates are the same as charged in other local communities and approved by the State. Responding to a question about expanded jurisdiction, Mr. Steffen explained we renew our expanded jurisdiction every three years believing it is a necessity from an economic development standpoint as Kentucky has only one inspector for ten counties. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Guidugli: Yes    Commissioner Hayden: Yes    Mayor Peluso: Yes  
Commissioner Fennell: Yes    Commissioner Peluso: Yes    Motion carried 5-0.

The city clerk gave first reading of tentative number **O-2016-004** an ordinance amending Section 96.42(B) of the Code of Ordinances, concerning **animal license and registration requirements**. Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Mr. Steffen noted there are no changes being made; this is simply making information about the fee clear. Commissioner Peluso thanked Mr. Steffen for the report from his department about animal control efforts even over the winter months. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Fennell: Yes    Commissioner Hayden: Yes    Mayor Peluso: Yes  
Commissioner Guidugli: Yes    Commissioner Peluso: Yes    Motion carried 5-0.

The city clerk gave first reading of tentative number **O-2016-005** an ordinance **repealing Section 9.33** of the Official Zoning Code of the City Of Newport, Kentucky **concerning the Sign Overlay District (SOD)**. Commissioner Peluso made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Hayden. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Peluso: Yes    Commissioner Guidugli: Yes    Mayor Peluso: Yes  
Commissioner Hayden: Yes    Commissioner Fennell: Yes    Motion carried 5-0.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

#### Commissioner Hayden

- Following the audit report he said it is a positive sign that following the loss of Trauth Dairy but have recouped that payroll tax plus more through bringing in more development. This says a lot about the work of city staff, a team that's done a great job making Newport a desirable place for employers to locate.

#### Commissioner Peluso

- Complimented the Recreation Commission for their work on the Easter Egg Hunt.
- Regarding the audit, he noted staff cuts were made a few years ago and our employees continue to do more with less.

#### Commissioner Fennell

- This is the time of year that people think of getting work done to fix up their homes but everyone should be cautious about fraudulent individuals and anyone they don't know that approaches them with offers to do such work. Contractors in Newport must be registered and have an occupational license, residents can call the City if they have questions. No one should pay for work without a contract or before at least half of the work is complete.

#### Commissioner Guidugli

- Echoing Commissioner Hayden, acknowledged the diversity of new companies coming in including different size and type companies.
- The City is being more efficient and always looking for ways to improve such as the interlocal agreement approved this evening.

#### Mayor Peluso

- There have been complaints of young people arriving by van load and going door-to-door distributing items. Any such activity should be reported to the Police Department immediately so they can check on it. Door-to-door solicitors must have a permit.
- Asked Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark to share some news. Mr. Clark stated Jack and Darla Sims visited and donated to the City some historic photos and items from the Vendome at 9<sup>th</sup> and Washington that was once owned by Mr. Sims' great-aunt, Maggie Yeager.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Hayden made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fennell offered a second to the motion. The Mayor asked for a roll call vote.

**Commissioner Hayden: Yes    Commissioner Guidugli: Yes    Mayor Peluso: Yes**  
**Commissioner Fennell: Yes    Commissioner Peluso: Yes    Motion carried 5-0.**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.**

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Date Approved/Signed

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Jerry R. Peluso, Mayor

Attest:

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Amy B. Able, City Clerk