

CITY OF NEWPORT, KY
SPECIAL AND CAUCUS MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monday, September 14, 2015
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL FOR SPECIAL MEETING

The special 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, Fire Chief Gary Auffart, Community Services Director Doug Roell, Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark, Community Liaison Bev Holiday, and City Clerk Amy Able.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The mayor opened the public hearing and the city clerk read the following notice.
"As required by statute, the following notice was published twice in the Campbell County Recorder (on August 27 and September 3, 2015) and a notice was posted at the entrance of the city building.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING: Pursuant to KRS 132.027, as amended by the Kentucky General Assembly Extraordinary Session of 1979, the City of Newport, KY will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 14 at 7:00 p.m., local time, in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Newport City Building, 998 Monmouth Street, to hear comments from the public regarding a proposed real estate tax rate of \$2.77 per \$1,000 valuation and proposed personal property tax rate of \$2.52 per \$1,000. As required by law, this includes the following information:

	Tax Rate Per \$1000 Assessed Valuation	Revenue
Preceding Year Tax Rate and Real Property Revenue	\$2.74	\$1,792,388
Tax Rate Proposed for 2015 and Expected Real Property Revenue	\$2.77	\$1,861,705
Compensating Tax Rate and Expected Real Property Revenue	\$2.66	\$1,792,388
Revenue Expected from New Real Property	\$0	\$0
Tax Rate Proposed for 2015 and Expected Personal Property Revenue	\$2.52	\$212,225

All revenues in excess of the amounts generated in 2015 will be allocated to all City operating departments and divisions, including: Police, Fire/EMS, Public Works, Recreation, Code

Enforcement, and General Administration. The Kentucky General Assembly has required publication of this advertisement and the information contained herein.”

Mr. Fromme presented information concerning the proposed tax rate and answered questions from the Board. The rate adopted last year was \$2.74/\$1,000. Many other municipalities in our area have separate property taxes for a fire district or an additional road tax. Looking at other cities in Campbell County and figuring in their fire district tax Newport compares favorably at the fourteenth lowest of sixteen cities. He stated he recommends adopting a rate above the compensating rate.

The Mayor opened the public hearing and called for any individuals wishing to address the Board about the proposed property tax rate. No one present commented. The Mayor announced the close of the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to accept the real property tax rate of \$2.74** per \$1,000 of assessed value, this is lower than the proposed rate of \$2.77 but maintains the same rate used in the previous fiscal year. Second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. The mayor called for a roll call vote. Commissioner Peluso asked if the vote is allowable if not identified as an agenda item for the special meeting. Mr. Braun stated this is allowable as part of the discussion to come to consensus on what rate will be voted on when the ordinance is given first reading. Commissioner Peluso stated he expected Finance staff to be present as he had been advised and he asked the city manager to comment on what kind of revenue increase we have had over the other streams - payroll, occupational license. Mr. Fromme responded that for the current year, based on preliminary figures, we are at about \$150,000 over projections on payroll and insurance premium taxes. Commissioner Peluso asked for the percentage over the anticipated budget. Mr. Fromme stated if the preliminary figures hold it will be about 5%.

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

PROCLAMATION

The city clerk read **R-2015-056** a resolution adopting a proclamation in memoriam paying tribute to Mary Helen Kroth. Commissioner Peluso made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. The mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Peluso welcomed and thanked the Kroth family members present. He stated Mary will be remembered as someone who was very friendly and truly cared about the community and for how much she and her husband Bill loved children. Commissioner Guidugli read the proclamation and presented it to the family of Mrs. Kroth.

The mayor called for a brief recess at 7:15. The meeting reconvened at 7:25 with all members of the Board present.

NEW BUSINESS

The city clerk gave first reading of **O-2015-010**, an ordinance **levying and assessing an ad valorem tax** for city purposes for the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 on all property located within the City of Newport, Kentucky. Commissioner Guidugli made a motion to approve. Second to the

motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. The mayor noted this ordinance includes the real property tax rate of \$2.74 per \$1,000 approved by the Board. Mayor Peluso called for any questions or comments from anyone present. Upon hearing there were no questions, he called for a roll call vote.

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

The mayor noted there will be a special meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15 for second reading of the ordinance.

The city clerk read **R-2015-057**, an order agreeing to and accepting the proposal of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Transportation Cabinet, Department of Highways concerning construction of the Ky **Route 9 extension**. Commissioner Fennell made a motion to approve. Second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Mr. Fromme stated this is for \$100,000 for the upgraded lighting as well as underground utilities along the connector road from the Taylor Southgate Bridge to the Fourth Street Bridge. Discussion ensued. Concerns were expressed about taking on responsibility and costs for existing State Routes and traffic lights. Mr. Fromme, Mr. Braun and Mr. Roell responded to questions from the Board. The State decision was to shift Route 9 from Central to Lowell; the portions of streets that are currently part of the State Route revert to the City and we will be responsible. While people are creatures of habit, over time driving habits are likely to change and there may be less traffic on the streets the City will be responsible for (for example, on Central,) which may dictate changes in traffic control – it is possible some intersections with traffic lights today will become 4-way stops. It was noted that the State recently repaved Central. Mayor Peluso stated we must always consider both cost factors and safety factors. He added that the change from traffic signal to four-way stop at Sixth and Washington has been an improvement. With all questions having been exhausted, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Fennell:	Yes	Commissioner Hayden:	Yes	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Guidugli:	Yes	Commissioner Peluso:	No	<u>Motion carried 4-1.</u>	

The city clerk read **R-2015-058**, an order approving and authorizing the city manager to execute a **Memorandum of Agreement with participating jurisdictions in the Northern Kentucky Area Development District Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan**. Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to approve**. Second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Hayden. Chief Auffart explained that Newport remains an active participant and all cities involved need to sign off on these periodic renewals. Upon hearing there were no further questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The city clerk read **R-2015-059**, an order authorizing and directing the city manager to issue a purchase order for the **purchase of a street sweeper** for use in the Newport Public Works Department. Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve**. Second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Roell addressed the Board. The current sweepers are fourteen and fifteen years old. The model selected has a tumbler for the dust at the final stage and a “high dump” capability for disposal directly into a dumpster (rather than onto the ground). This model has a conventional cab as the preferred cab over design adds about \$30k to the price. Staff has test driven this model. Keeping the existing sweepers will aide in keeping streets clean when one unit is out of service for maintenance and will be useful for large events like

Riverfest. Upon hearing there were no further questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote. The 5.7 cubic yard capacity is smaller than the 8 cubic yard capacity of the current models but with the faster dump the new model gets back on the street faster. The new model will be about the same size but has a better turning radius. Delivery will be in about six months. Mayor Peluso stated it is amazing and disappointing that so much money must be spent to keep things clean. He thanked all the volunteers involved in the "Trash Bash" clean-up effort last weekend when in two hours 100 people picked up almost 1,000 pounds of trash. Upon hearing there were no further questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING

There being no further business, Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to adjourn the special meeting**. Commissioner Guidugli offered a second to the motion. The Mayor asked 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>	

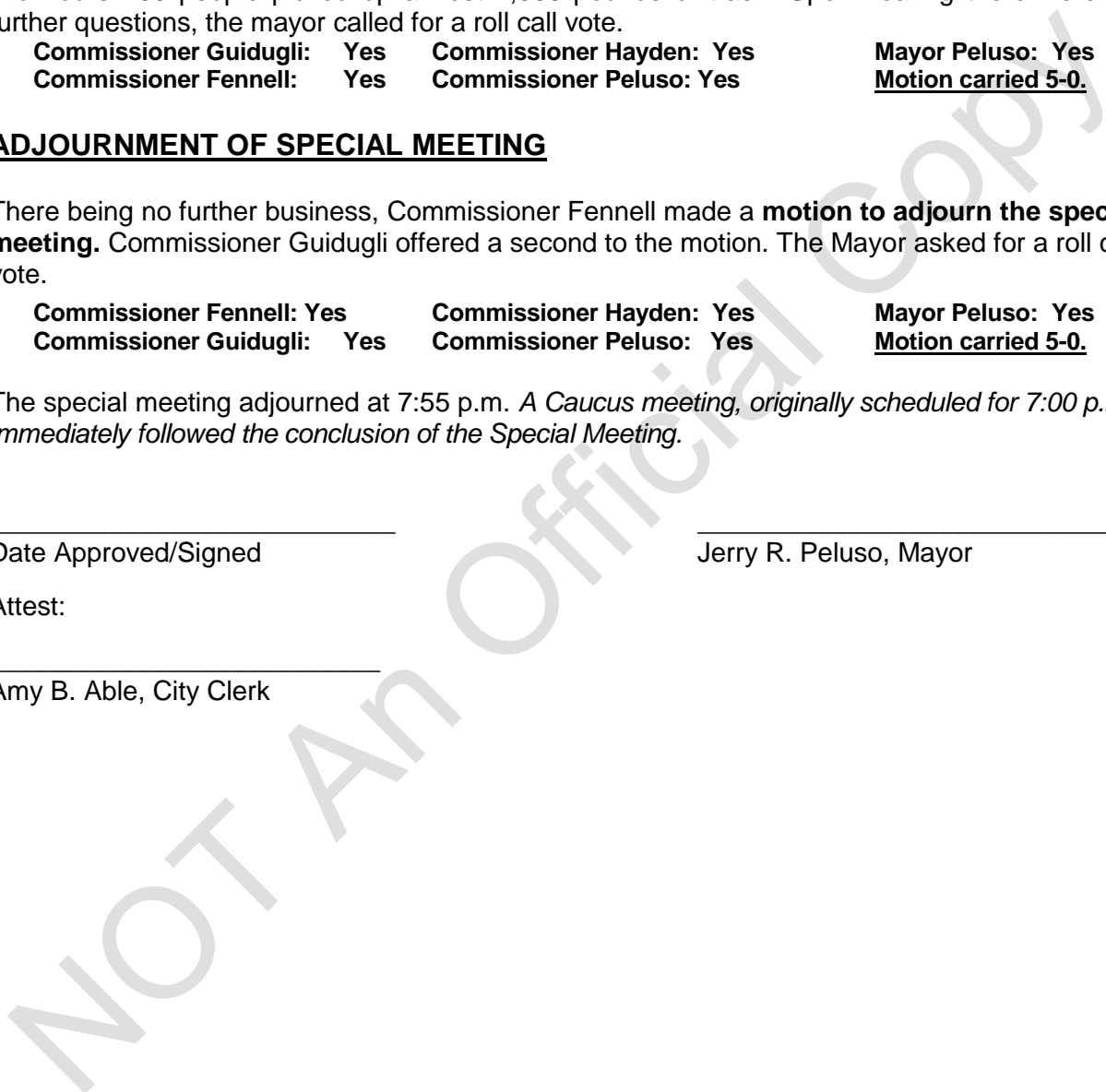
The special meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. *A Caucus meeting, originally scheduled for 7:00 p.m., immediately followed the conclusion of the Special Meeting.*

Date Approved/Signed

Jerry R. Peluso, Mayor

Attest:

Amy B. Able, City Clerk



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The caucus meeting was called to order by Mayor Peluso at 7:55 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Newport Municipal Building at 998 Monmouth Street.

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 Tom Fromme, Police Chief Thomas Collins, Fire Chief Gary Auffart, Community Services Director Doug Roell, Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark, Community Liaison Bev Holiday, and City Clerk Amy Able.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS / PROPOSED LEGISLATION / CITY BUSINESS

The Board discussed the following items in an open forum.

City Manager Updates / Discussion Items

- **Inducement Resolution** – Presentation by David George of CRG Residential on preliminary plans for Fourth Street School site.
- **Expansion of Façade Program**
- **Miscellaneous Updates**

PUBLIC FORUM AND COMMENTS

Anyone wishing to discuss any City service issue not on the agenda was invited to do so.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Date Approved/Signed

Jerry R. Peluso, Mayor

Attest:

Amy B. Able, City Clerk