

City OF NEWPORT, KY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monday, September 26, 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, Assistant to the City Manager Larissa Sims, City Attorney Daniel Braun, Police Chief Thomas Collins, Fire Chief Bill Darin, Development Services Director Greg Tulley, Code Enforcement Director Brian Steffen, Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark, Community Liaison Bev Holiday, and City Clerk Amy Able.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS & PROCLAMATIONS

There was a presentation by Ms. Rhonda Whitacre **Duke Energy to Newport SWAT of a check for \$9,000 for a tactical robot** ("SWATbot") that will assist with police operations, can be used in high risk situations to put audio and camera equipment in place while keeping officers out of harm's way, and will be showcased in community outreach events with age-appropriate messaging for students. Checkmate Robotics and students from NKU contributed to the project. Mr. Jeff Mefford of Checkmate and Dr. Frank Braun of NKU Dept. of Business Informatics, Ms. Jill Henry Executive Director of NKU's Center for Applied Informatics and Lt. Kunkel were in attendance for a demonstration of the unit. A statement was read from Mr. Steve Hinkle, an NKU adjunct professor who spearheaded the project but was out of state and could not be in attendance, thanking all involved in the thousands of hours of work bringing the concept to fruition.

A Kentucky League of Cities "**Friends of Cities Award**" was presented to Rep. Dennis Keene by KLC Deputy Executive Director J. D. Chaney. Rep. Keene was recognized for his ongoing efforts in Frankfort including being instrumental in passage during the 2016 session of legislation to make Homeland Security grant funds available for body-worn cameras for police officers and leading the effort on bourbon as tourism which will have a huge impact for cities.

There was a presentation on **smartLINK** by Mr. Jon Salisbury from Nexigen. Their Smart City initiative aims to provide Wi-Fi throughout the city which will be accessible to students utilizing their school-issued tablets as well as placing nodes (nine-foot tall kiosks) in various areas throughout the City which will offer highly-filtered internet access to: share information about city services, provide wayfinding, offer updates and news, and promote tourism. The cost will be \$30-40,000 per unit. Plans are underway for sale of ad space (scaled for local businesses) to cover the costs.

(Mayor Peluso exited the room at 7:27 p.m., the presentation continued, the Mayor returned at 7:30 p.m.) Data analytics will be collected (without storage of photo images or personal information) to be utilized for sale of ad space as well as for economic purposes such as businesses considering a move to the City. Based on conservative estimates of 400 passers-by per day, predictions are for placement of 30 nodes resulting in \$13,500 per month coming to the City; increasing after four

years to about \$600 per month per node or about \$18,000 per month. Anti-vandalism measures were part of the design. The collaborative effort for the project included contributions by Beast Carbon (a company considering a move to Newport). Dean Kirby of NKU's College of Informatics and Hewlett Packard have expressed interest in learning about the project and the City of Cincinnati has inquired about possibly using it as a model. There will be a press conference on October 3.

Mr. Salisbury responded to questions from the Board and residents in attendance. In response to a question about whether people have an opportunity to opt in or out of the data collection and whether it is collected from cell phones, he explained it is similar to what is collected when people enter a mall; while there is a video stream no images are recorded or stored but demographic data is registered. Any social authentication (such as connecting to Wi-Fi using Facebook would require approval. **Mr. Greg Bauerly of Linden Avenue** expressed concerns about frequencies used and emissions from the nodes, citing his professional experience as well as numerous published scientific reports and global standards. After a brief exchange Mr. Bauerly and Mr. Salisbury agreed to meet to discuss these matters further.

Duke Energy Ms. Rhonda Whitacre presented a check for \$2,000 to **Neighborhood Foundations for the brick paver restoration project on Weingartner**. Mr. Thomas Guidugli, Sr., Executive Director of Neighborhood Foundations, gave a brief presentation on the project and thanked Duke Energy and Mr. Eugene Martin who also donated funding to make the project possible.

At 8:00 p.m. Mayor Peluso called for a five minute recess. (The city clerk exited the room at 8:03 and returned at 8:07 p.m.) The meeting reconvened at 8:05 p.m. will all members of the Board present and responding to roll call by the city attorney.

PUBLIC FORUM There was no one present responding to the invitation to address the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Peluso made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, August 22, 2016 regular meeting, the Monday, August 29, 2016 special meeting, and the September 12, 2016 caucus meeting. Commissioner Fennell offered a second to the motion. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote. The city attorney called the roll.

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

OLD BUSINESS

The city attorney gave second reading to **O-2016-018**, an Ordinance amending Section 37.094 of the Code of Ordinances concerning occupational licenses to include subsection (h) to provide for a credit of the occupational license fee for new employees as part of an economic development project by **New Riff Distilling, LLC under the Kentucky Business Investment Program** pursuant to KRS 154.32-010 through 154.32-100. Commissioner Peluso 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. The city clerk called the roll.

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

The city clerk gave second reading to **O-2016-019**, an Ordinance amending portions of Chapter 32 of the Newport Code of Ordinances concerning the **Code Enforcement Board** including amendment to Sections 32.001 through 32.016 and addition of Sections 32.017 through 32.025. **Motion to approve** was made by Commissioner Fennell and 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 Fennell:	Yes	Commissioner Guidugli:	Yes	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Hayden:	Yes	Commissioner Peluso:	Yes	<u>Motion carried 5-0.</u>	

The city clerk gave second reading to **O-2016-020**, an Ordinance amending portions of Chapter 150 of the Newport Code of Ordinances concerning the **Code Enforcement Board** including amendment to Sections 150.99 and Appendix A: **Fine Schedule**. Commissioner Peluso made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Upon hearing there were no further comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The city clerk gave second reading to **O-2016-021**, an Ordinance amending Section XI of the **Local Participation Agreement** for the City Center Development Area incorporated into Ordinance O-2014-004 with regard to the activation date. Commissioner Peluso 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 Peluso:	Yes	Commissioner Fennell:	Yes	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Guidugli:	Yes	Commissioner Hayden:	Yes	<u>Motion carried 5-0.</u>	

NEW BUSINESS

The city clerk gave first reading to tentative **O-2016-022**, an Ordinance amending Section 37.057 of the Code of Ordinances concerning **refunds**. Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Fromme explained a recent complaint about payroll taxes that were erroneously paid has been resolved. In researching that matter it was determined the policy on refunds outlined in the Ordinance should be made clearer. 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	<u>Motion carried 5-0.</u>	

The city clerk read **R-2016-063**, an Order of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Newport, Kentucky authorizing and directing City Manager Thomas Fromme to execute a contract with **TEC Engineering, Inc.** concerning construction of the **Carothers Road Project, Phase II**. Mr. Tulley addressed the Board explain S&K Federal funds will be used with a 20% match from the City. The plan is to continue work on Carothers (from the area of Firestone, both sides of the road including entryways to businesses) all the way to Monmouth. The grant was for \$1.2m and we will apply for an additional 10% as allowable. This contract is for the design phase. In response to the RFQ, three submittals were received. The cost will be \$120,000, the City's portion will be \$24,000. This will take about six months and the hope is to award the project work in April. In addition to elimination of some overhead electric, aesthetics such as sidewalks and curbs will be addressed. Mr. Tulley confirmed grading and drains will be looked at as part of the review. Mr. Brian Bender of TEC, design engineer on the first phase was present and offered to answer any questions. Commissioner Peluso made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Upon hearing there were no further comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The city clerk read **R-2016-064**, an Order accepting the **Dave Cowens Drive extension** for dedication to and maintenance by the City of Newport, Kentucky. Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Mr. Fromme stated there have been some problems with improper parking along this roadway. Through early agreements the City was obligated to accept this portion of the road which is in good shape. 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 read **R-2016-065**, an Order authorizing and directing City Manager Thomas Fromme to execute a contract with **Eaton Asphalt Paving Co., Inc.** for 2016 **Bid Package 4** street resurfacing and reconstruction. Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Fromme explained that there was a previous vote to award the project to another vendor who could not meet the required timeline; this vendor will complete the project in November. 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 read **R-2016-066**, an Order of the board of commissioners of the City of Newport, Kentucky, authorizing Mayor Jerry Peluso to proclaim October 9th through the 15th as "**Fire Prevention Week**" in the City of Newport, Kentucky. 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 Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Peluso read the proclamation and presented a copy to Chief Darin.

CITY MANAGERS COMMENTS

- Harvest the Arts festival will be October 8 from 11 to 6.
- Mrs. Sims stated the new City Facebook page launched today and has 189 "likes".
- Bids to replace five damaged mast arms were submitted and the low bid was \$202,000. Most were damaged by vehicles in unreported accidents.
- To combat vandalism, cameras have been put in place in Gen. James Taylor Park.
- At the October 24 meeting Scott Clark will give a presentation on the Southgate School.
- Bond issuance will be finalized next month in Frankfort for the Fourth Street School project

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Fennell

- Positive partnerships (with City leadership, businesses, Neighborhood Foundations, entities like OKI, State and Federal government) have allowed us to come so far from restoring a brick paved street to increased connectivity and doing roadway projects.

Commissioner Guidugli

- Harvest the Arts will be family-friendly entertainment and dining in our historic downtown including an open chalk art opportunity on October 8.

Commissioner Hayden

- Exciting to see the development of projects as a result of partnerships with community businesses such as Mr. Salisbury's.
- The recent opening of Marco's Pizza demonstrated businesses eager to be a part of the community as they immediately offered to partner with the schools.

Mayor Peluso

- Mr. Rob Hands is retiring from KYTC District 6, he will be missed.
- There was a block party in the 700 block of Liberty and a resident mentioned how she has come to appreciate the unique brick streets in the area.
- The kick-off event for the City's new logo was well attended.
- There was a ribbon cutting for a Habitat for Humanity home in the 900 block of Columbia celebrating the project and the proud new home owner.
- The Carnegie Event Center (formerly the Carnegie Library, now a reception hall) had a ribbon cutting.
- Batman Day was celebrated at Arcadian Comics. Neighboring businesses also got into the spirit. The owner extended his thanks to the City and Police Department for their support of the successful event.
- Regarding crime and vandalism, if you see something, same something. Prompt reporting is the best way to assist the police department.
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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Guidugli made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fennell offered a second to the motion. The Mayor asked 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 meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Date Approved/Signed

Jerry R. Peluso, Mayor

Attest:

Amy B. Able, City Clerk