

**City OF NEWPORT, KY**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Monday, October 24, 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, Assistant City Attorney Robert List, Police Chief Thomas Collins, Fire Capt. Randy Childress, Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark, Community Liaison Bev Holiday, and City Clerk Amy Able.

**PERSONNEL ORDERS**

The city clerk read **R-2016-069**, an Order of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Newport, Kentucky **promoting Jeff Kohls to the position of Sergeant** in the Newport Police Department. Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Peluso. Upon hearing there were no further comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The city clerk read **R-2016-070**, an Order of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Newport, Kentucky **promoting Larry Hoppius to the position of Sergeant** in the Newport Police Department. Commissioner Fennell 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.

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

The city clerk read **R-2016-071**, an Order of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Newport, Kentucky **promoting Engineer/Medic Marcus Muench to the position of Lieutenant/Medic** in the Newport Fire/EMS Department. Commissioner Peluso made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Upon hearing there were no further comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The city clerk read **R-2016-072**, an Order of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Newport, Kentucky **promoting Firefighter Nicholas Brown to the position of Engineer in the Newport Fire/EMS Department**. Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Upon hearing there were no further comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The city clerk read **R-2016-073**, an Order of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Newport, Kentucky **appointing Philip Wagner to the position of Firefighter/EMT, Grade 0** in the Newport Fire/EMS Department. Commissioner Peluso made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Upon hearing there were no further comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The newest police sergeants were given the oath of office, those being promoted were pinned with new insignia, and the newest hire was welcomed.

### **PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS & PROCLAMATIONS**

Mr. Tom Guidugli, Sr., Executive Director of Neighborhood Foundations, reported on recent national recognition for the Scholar House, the President's Award for Innovation from the Council of State Community Development Agencies.

Mayor Peluso stated the Newport Board of Education recently honored six alumni in a **Hall of Distinguished Alumni** induction ceremony, among them was City Manager Tom Fromme.

**Mayor's Cannoli Awards** were presented to several individuals **Kate Arthur and Steve Mathisen** were recognized in appreciation for organizing Macy's participation in United Way's volunteer day and coordinating the improvement projects to spruce up General James Taylor Park. (Wanda Winkler of Brighton Center accepted for Kate Arthur.) **Matt Meyung and Ryan Hill** were recognized in appreciation for organizing the "Harvest the Arts" festival held on September 8 which drew over 500 attendees.

Mr. Fromme commented on the recent re-dedication of Carabello Coffee following the business expansion at Ninth and Monmouth by **Justin and Emily Carabello**.

Mayor Peluso gave a Business Recognition Award was presented to **Toby Moeves and Kate Kugele** of Industry Salon for rehabilitation of the property at 846 Saratoga.

At 7:30 p.m. Mayor Peluso called for a ten minute recess. The meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m. will all members of the Board present and responding to roll call.

Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark gave a presentation on the history and future plans of the **Southgate School**. The first section was built in 1871 and was enlarged in 1893. It served as the only school in Campbell County for African-American students through 1955. The property, currently owned and long-maintained by Masonic Lodge 120 Prince Hall Chapter, has been offered to the City for use as a museum. The developer of the adjacent Fourth Street School Project has agreed to assist with renovation of the outside of the property. The building will remain a meeting place for the Masonic Lodge but will also serve as a museum to tell the rich story of our history. Plans are underway to collaborate with students from NKU on this project. Mr. Clark credited Mr. Robert Ingguls, a member of the Newport Historic Preservation Commission, Masonic Lodge 120, and an alumni of Southgate School, who has been instrumental in these plans along with Mr. Ted Harris and Ms. Patricia Hedeane.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark announced a “Rock the Block” event to be held October 29 for critical repairs on five homes including exterior repairs and yard clean up. There will also be a tree planting event on the same day.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Guidugli made a motion to approve the minutes of the Monday, September 26, 2016 regular meeting, the Monday, October 3, 2016 special and caucus meetings. 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 Guidugli:	Yes	Commissioner Hayden:	Yes	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Fennell:	Yes	Commissioner Peluso:	Yes	<b><u>Motion carried 5-0.</u></b>	

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The city clerk gave second 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. 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	<b><u>Motion carried 5-0.</u></b>	

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The city clerk gave first reading to tentative **O-2016-023**, an Ordinance of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Newport, Kentucky **creating an Energy Project Assessment District (EPAD)** within the City pursuant to the provisions of KRS 65.205-.209 and establishing a program to advance conservation and efficient use of energy and water resources. Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mrs. Sims explained the program and introduced Mr. Chris Jones of the Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance. There is no cost to tax payers, this is designed to create jobs and help small businesses save money. The financing can pay up to 100% of an energy project, funding flows through approved lenders, money is repaid through voluntary assessments to participants. The district will cover the entire City. The Ordinance allows charging up to a 1% administration fee and closing costs on a project-by-project basis. Commercial, industrial, and multi-family properties of five units or more will be eligible. Mr. Jones said tens of millions have been invested in Ohio and thirty-five states have passed enabling legislation. 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	<b><u>Motion carried 5-0.</u></b>	

### **COMMENTS FROM CITY DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Chief Collins

- **Trick-or-Treat** in Newport will be on Halloween, October 31 from 6-8 p.m.
- Residents are reminded **“if you see something, say something”**. Prompt reporting to the police can help with investigations and allow them to act fast with regard to fraudulent activities designed to take advantage of residents – especially the elderly.

### **CITY MANAGERS COMMENTS**

- An update on plans for the **Ovation** site will be coming soon from Mr. Tom Banta.
- There was a meeting today with the **Army Corps of Engineers** about pending projects.
- There will be a meeting in Frankfort on November 1 with bond counsel for the **Fourth Street**

**School development.**

- A **special meeting** may be scheduled for November 14 (immediately before the caucus meeting) for necessary approval of items related to the purchase of the new fire truck with grant funds.

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Guidugli

- Regarding Southgate School, thanks to Mr. Clark for and especially the Masonic Lodge for being going stewards of the historic building.

Commissioner Hayden

- Congratulations to Tom Guidugli, Sr. and all involved with the Scholar House on the recent recognition. This shows strong leadership at the Newport Housing Authority. The project benefits the whole community.

Commissioner Peluso

- Residents are receiving letters from Duke Energy concerning new gas line installation. The City must stay on top of street cuts. There are several already on Main St. and Kentucky Dr.

Commissioner Fennell

- Thanks to Scott Clark and to Mr. Ingguls for all of his work.
- Successful partnerships continue to benefit everyone – the success stories in the City continue to highlight positive partnerships with the City, Neighborhood Foundations, Brighton Center, Newport Independent Schools, etc. When everyone works together in a positive direction you can get a lot done.
- At the last OKI meeting it was noted \$6m in Federal funds will be coming to Newport for road improvements (south Monmouth St. and improvements to the underpass.) These were ranked high priority projects at OKI. Mr. Tulley and other city staff worked hard on these initiatives. Mayor Peluso added thanks to Mr. Bob Yoder for his assistance with grant writing. Improvements and landscaping in this area should also help reduce flooding issues.

**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    Motion carried 5-0.**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:25 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