

City OF NEWPORT, KY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Monday, June 19, 2017
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 Frank Peluso, Commissioner Ken Rehtin, and Mayor Jerry Peluso. Also in attendance were: City Manager Thomas Fromme, Assistant to the City Manager Larissa Sims, Assistant City Attorney Bob List, Police Chief Thomas Collins, Fire Chief Bill Darin, Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark, Community Liaison Bev Holiday, and City Clerk Amy Able.

PRESENTATIONS

IAFF Local 45 Scholarships were presentation to NCC Graduate Olivia Schalk and NHS Graduate Wittney Hardin.

PUBLIC FORUM

Campbell County Judge Executive Steve Pendery and County Administrator Matt Elberfeld came before the Board and Mr. Elberfeld gave an update on the plans for a new 800 MHz comprehensive radio system. Three proposals were received and reviewed with Motorola being the lowest and best, Mobilcom is the local service provider. The cost is \$4.8m. Consultants estimated about \$3m was saved by working with Kenton and Boone County for shared equipment and discounts on service. The County 9-1-1 fee needs to cover expenses and dispatch operation expenses and has determined the required fee to be \$70 for the ten year financial model. Boone County recently implemented a \$75 fee that does not include debt service. Kenton County subsidizes and has a \$60 fee. The three members of the interlocal agreement must approve the fee; Campbell County Fiscal Court and Fort Thomas have given approval. City approval directs funds to be spent on dispatch. Mayor Peluso noted this matter was included as an agenda item.

The City Clerk read **R-2017-033**, a resolution **approving the Campbell County Fiscal Court 911 service fee** increase as determined by the Campbell County Consolidated Dispatching Board Interlocal Agreement. Commissioner Peluso made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Mr. Elberfeld responded to questions from the Board. Another County pulling out was addressed in the MOU, they would have to leave the assets and would be responsible for debt service. The per parcel charge evolved over time due to declining revenues (the old land line tax) that previously funded the system. The funding of dispatch includes the P25 digital system. The debt service is about \$532,000 on a \$3m budget. Nothing here is a barrier to future merger of dispatch centers; switching the radio system across 90 public service agencies and 5,000 subscriber units is a large enough undertaking itself. Commissioner Fennell expressed concern that this is an unfair tax burden to residents of the City (20% of whom are below the poverty level and many of whom are seniors on fixed incomes) and it is almost doubling in four years' time. Regarding the \$70 fee, Judge Pendery commented the Fiscal Court cannot extend itself and force future fiscal courts nor can the created organization proceed to spend without identifying a source of revenue to cover it for the whole time but the \$70 amount includes expenses of operation and inflation factors with the hope it will remain flat for many years.

It was noted the 800 MHz system was looked at years ago and the existing system was not expected to last this long. The estimated useful life is 12-15 years with hopes it might last longer. Of the \$4.8m cost, \$1m is site work, \$3.8 is radio equipment. Commissioner Rehtin asked about the cost of different options such as Boone and Campbell having one dispatch center and Mr. Elberfeld responded the three counties set out from the beginning to get the benefit of one system. Upon hearing there were no further comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote. Commissioner Fennell stated she has never voted against anything public safety related but our population will have difficulty with the fee which is also not guaranteed. Commissioner Rehtin said there was a missed opportunity for savings through combined dispatch.

Commissioner Peluso:	Yes	Commissioner Fennell	No	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Guidugli:	Yes	Commissioner Rehtin:	No		<u>Motion carried 3-2.</u>

Ms. Jean Ritze, a resident of Southshore at 400 Riverboat Row, expressed concerns about safety for pedestrians. A temporary TANK route change has become permanent because five new trolley style buses bottom out at the Port of Entry. To utilize the nearest bus stop now requires crossing at Park and Dave Cowan's in heavy and turning traffic or crossing at Linden where there is no cross walk. The City Manager will contact TANK to resolve the matter. He added the State was previously contacted about a request for an additional crosswalk on Cowans and they were reluctant.

Ms. Ritze stated CIG/Mr. Bastos as the developer has a public garage under Southshore with thirty spaces for guests and dedicated spaces for Don Pablo's and Chart House. She heard Mr. Bastos intends to start charging and asked if the City is aware and if the City would make money from this. Mr. Fromme responded the City does not receive revenue from that parking garage and the development agreement will be reviewed.

Mayor Peluso asked for any update on the Don Pablo's location. Mr. Fromme said options are still being examined. The facility is in poor condition.

Ms. Ritze asked about the possible development at the Port of Entry. Mr. Fromme responded the developer has a proven track record including successful completion of the Pavilion.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Guidugli made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on Monday, May 22, 2017 regular meeting, the Monday, June 12, 2017 special meeting, and the Tuesday, June 13, 2017 special meeting. Commissioner Peluso offered a second to the motion. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

OLD BUSINESS

The City Clerk gave second reading to **O-2017-009**, an ordinance pursuant to Chapter 153 of the Code of Ordinances, amending Section 10.1 A.2., of the Official Zoning Ordinance of the City of Newport, Kentucky concerning **uses permitted in the Conservation District Zone to include privately operated amusement/attraction areas**. Commissioner Peluso 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 Peluso:	Yes	Commissioner Guidugli:	Yes	Mayor Peluso:	Yes
Commissioner Fennell:	Yes	Commissioner Rehtin:	Yes		<u>Motion carried 5-0..</u>

NEW BUSINESS

The City Clerk read **R-2017-025**, an order authorizing City Manager Thomas J. Fromme, pursuant to the interlocal agreement establishing the city's **participation in the Kentucky League of Cities Insurance Services Association**, to enter into and **execute a trust participation agreement** in association therewith. 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 Peluso: Yes Mayor Peluso: Yes
Commissioner Fennell: Yes Commissioner Rehtin: Yes Motion carried 5-0.

The City Clerk read **R-2017-026**, an order authorizing City Manager Thomas J. Fromme to **enter into agreements** with Kentucky League of Cities (KLCIS) for **property and liability insurance**, with Kentucky Employers Mutual (KEMI) for **workers compensation insurance**, with The Hartford for **crime coverage**, and with **Ohio Casualty and Travelers Insurance for public officials bonds**. Commissioner Peluso made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Chuck Honkomp of Crawford Insurance addressed the Board. Premiums are down 3% or \$14,000, this is the second year with a decrease in rates. Claim experience has been pretty good. Rates were down almost 6% but this is offset by an increase in payroll (including additional personnel in the police department). Other companies quoted higher rates or declined to quote as they couldn't meet the coverage (for example, some will not bid because of the floodwall,) or rates. 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 Fennell: Yes Commissioner Rehtin: Yes Motion carried 5-0.

The City Clerk read **R-2017-027**, an order **declaring certain personal property of the City of Newport as surplus** and authorizing disposal in accordance with state law. Commissioner Guidugli made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Chief Darin stated this is a 1989 Seagrave; a recent quote for repair of the engine was \$40,000. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The City Clerk read **R-2017-028**, an order granting a **property assessment moratorium** to York Street Enterprises relating to the restoration of property at **629 York Street**, Newport, Kentucky. Commissioner Guidugli made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Fromme confirmed the commercial property is eligible. Commissioner Rehtin asked for a future discussion about the moratorium program. Mr. Fromme said this can be included in the housing discussion planned for a caucus session after the summer. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The City Clerk read **R-2017-029**, an order granting a **property assessment moratorium** to Rick Sims relating to the restoration of property at **819 Overton Street**, Newport, Kentucky. Commissioner Peluso 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 Peluso: Yes Commissioner Guidugli: Yes Mayor Peluso: Yes
Commissioner Fennell: Yes Commissioner Rehtin: Yes Motion carried 5-0.

The City Clerk read **R-2017-030**, an order granting a **property assessment moratorium** to Rick Sims relating to the restoration of property at **823 Overton Street**, Newport, Kentucky. Commissioner Peluso 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 Peluso: Yes Commissioner Guidugli: Yes Mayor Peluso: Yes
Commissioner Fennell: Yes Commissioner Rehtin: Yes Motion carried 5-0.

The City Clerk read **R-2017-031**, an order authorizing and directing City Manager Thomas J. Fromme to execute a contract with Atkins and Stang, Inc. for **Monmouth Street streetscape improvements - led light fixture replacement** payable from the Community Development Fund. Commissioner Peluso made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Fromme explained this has been in progress for over a year and utilizes program income funds which originated with a UDAG grant from Water Tower Square. Part of this component is LED lights, painting poles and benches on Monmouth as well as repair of pavers (which has not yet been bid.) The numbers were higher than projected so funds will be reallocated to be sure the costs are covered. The LED conversion different in cost is pennies on the dollar. There will be a significant savings on utility bills for street lighting. 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 Rehtin: Yes Motion carried 5-0.

The City Clerk read **R-2017-032**, an order authorizing and directing City Manager Thomas J. Fromme to execute a contract with Baynum Painting, Inc. for **Monmouth Street streetscape improvements – painting** payable from the Community Development Fund. Commissioner Fennell made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Mr. Fromme stated he is pleased we will be working with a local business. Mayor Peluso asked for any options of graffiti resistant finishes to be researched. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

The City Clerk read **R-2017-034**, an order **accepting Pavilion Parkway** 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 this was provided for in the in the development agreement and Mr. List confirmed it is required by statute that the City make formal adopt. Commissioner Peluso noted this does not include the wall and Mr. Fromme confirmed the wall and wooden guardrail are excluded. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

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

COMMENTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Chief Darin stated he enjoyed attending Italianfest for the first time.

COMMENTS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- A recent Supreme Court ruling struck down the State disallowing city collection of telecommunication franchise fees.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Fennell

- Italianfest was a success again this year meeting all expectations.
- A press release today states two lanes of the Brent Spence Bridge will be closed for sixty days. Expect some traffic to be rerouted to I-471 as drivers seek alternate routes.

Commissioner Guidugli

- It's exciting to refresh Monmouth Street with the streetscape improvements approved. Investment followed the last time and this will be another catalyst.

Mayor Peluso

- Be aware and report any crime witnessed including theft and graffiti. You can remain anonymous using the police tip line. Keep cars locked at all times and make special arrangements if packages will be delivered when you're not at home.
- A letter of thanks was read acknowledging Newport Police Officers who waited with a young woman until a ride came for her after being separated from a group of friends.
- A new business, Jet Age Records has opened at 817 Monmouth. The owners are from the west end of Newport.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Date Approved/Signed

Jerry R. Peluso, Mayor

Attest:

Amy B. Able, City Clerk