

**CITY OF NEWPORT, KY**  
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Monday, October 20, 2014**  
**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, Jr., Commissioner John Hayden, Commissioner Frank Peluso, and Mayor Jerry Peluso. Also in attendance were: City Manager Thomas Fromme, City Attorney Daniel Braun, Chief Tom Collins, Fire Chief Gary Auffart, CFO C.R. Wirthlin, Community Liaison Bev Holiday, and City Clerk Amy Able.

**PRESENTATIONS, AWARDS & PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Peluso presented **Cannoli Awards to Atlas Dry Cleaners and Dickey's Glass** to recognize their efforts toward beautification and their contributions maintaining sidewalk planters.

**Rep. Dennis Keene presented a check from the Commonwealth for \$1,200,000** for repaving streets in the City. He noted there has been great momentum with all the development in Newport but, with that comes a burden to taxpayers through the wear and tear on the streets and additional work is created for city departments.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Ms. Joy Galbraith of the Costume Gallery addressed the Board. She would like to propose a future urban vintage camping event. There was a display of a few vintage campers at the Harvest Fest that was very popular. There are a few rallies around the country such as at Hartford City, Indiana's Harvest Fest at their courthouse square. Vintage campers could use a parking lot and side streets and pay a fee to cover portable restrooms. Newport businesses and restaurants would benefit from business from rally attendees. She will gather information and submit more details for consideration.

Ms. Galbraith also stated Monmouth Theater has been sold to Falcon and they are happy to have a permanent space.

Ms. Samantha Bowling of West Twelfth Street would like parking lines to be painted on her street. Chief Collins will check the resurfacing schedule, review the request, and follow up with her.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Guidugli made a **motion to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2014 regular meeting**; 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.

<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>	

Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2014 caucus meeting**; 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.

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The city clerk read tentative number **R-2014-052** an order authorizing City Manager Thomas J. Fromme to execute a memorandum of understanding with Studio Vertu, Inc. for participation in the City of Newport's Job Development Incentive Program (JDIP) pursuant to Section 37.212 et. seq. of the Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Guidugli made a motion to approve; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Fromme introduced owner Ms. Marlane Vaicius, also a resident of the City, who is excited to bring to Newport her business, which manufactures giftware from marble, to 1032 Saratoga. The company has done large mosaics at the Reds ballpark and at NFL Headquarters. The company will bring 17 employees. Upon hearing there were no further 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 tentative number **R-2014-053** an order authorizing City Manager Thomas J. Fromme to execute a memorandum of understanding with nimbleSoft, LLC. for participation in the City of Newport's Job Development Incentive Program (JDIP) pursuant to Section 37.212 et. seq. of the Code of Ordinances. Commissioner Fennell made a motion to approve; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Mr. Fromme explained this tech company will be moving into the space on Eleventh Street with Nexigen and is expected to grow from four employees. Upon hearing there were no further 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 by title and summary of tentative number **O-2014-019** an ordinance creating Section 30.007A of the Code of Ordinances **concerning the election of City Officers**. Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. Mr. Fromme and Mr. Braun explained with the recent reclassification of Kentucky cities, there were changes to KRS and it is necessary for current Second Class cities (which will be Home Rule Cities as of January 1, 2015) to enact an ordinance if they wish to continue with nonpartisan elections. Mayor Peluso and Commissioner Fennell expressed that the non-partisan approach has worked successfully and, to avoid the potential for things becoming more derisive and more complicated, they have no interest in changing. Upon hearing there were no further 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 by title and summary of tentative number **O-2014-020** an ordinance amending Sections 30.002, 30.007, 31.41(b), and 111.02 of the Code of Ordinances **referencing the classification of the city**. Commissioner Hayden made a motion to approve; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Braun explained these changes are housekeeping measures. 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    Motion carried 5-0.**

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

Chief Collins stated the Halloween costume parade and event **Monsters on Monmouth** was enjoyed by 500 children.

The Police Department has received a **Homeland Security grant for \$23,000** for an apparatus

that can attach to home or business security systems to recover information for download.  
**Trick-or-Treat** will be on Halloween, Friday, October 31 from 6 – 8 p.m.

Chief Auffart stated the Fire/EMS Department is **working with the Red Cross to distribute 300 smoke detectors on the West Side**. They have set a goal of reducing fire deaths by 25% over the next 5 years.

Mayor Peluso asked the status of the **Pump Park** proposal; Chief Auffart said an alternate site is still under review.

CFO Wirthlin stated **first quarter financial statements** will be ready soon. She is also working on revised standards for the budget book which should be complete by month's end.

**Property taxes** are due October 31.

### **COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER**

Mr. Fromme suggested **cancelling the November caucus meeting**. He is working on a project but it will not be ready for discussion by that date.

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

Commissioner Hayden

- Thanks to Bev Holiday for organizing Harvest Fest which was a nice event.
- Election Day is November 4. In Campbell County there will be two new County Commissioners elected to the Fiscal Court. All are encouraged to make informed decisions and vote.

Commissioner Guidugli

- Harvest Fest was a great event that brought many into the City.
- Monsters on Monmouth was a lot of fun for the children – thanks to Recreation.
- Thanks to Representative Keene for securing road funds. The Board strengthened their commitment to infrastructure and the State funds will be a great compliment helping us reach goals sooner.

Commissioner Fennell

- Litterfest – the large item drop off event will be October 20 – 26.
- Visiting family from out of state was very impressed with how busy and how great the City looks at night.

Mayor Peluso

- The Red Bike Program, a great success in Cincinnati, will be expanding soon to Northern Kentucky river cities thanks to seed money donated by Saint Elizabeth Hospital.
- A recent tour of Rumpke recycling was very impressive. Links to an overview and educational video are on the City website.
- The façade program in the 800 block of Monmouth was a success and he would like to see it expanded. Mr. Fromme noted this was expanded after the first year and notices were delivered to business owners. This will be a topic for discussion at a future caucus meeting.
- We need to look at a landscaping program for City-owned parking lots.

- Salt storage facility is near completion. First delivery has been received; it will store up to 1,000 tons.
- Thanks to all the businesses who participated in Harvest Fest.
- Thanks to Queen City Sausage, Mr. Bernstein/ S.S. Nightmare, and all the volunteers who made Monsters on Monmouth a success.
- Newport's Recreation Commission meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. Prospective volunteers are encouraged to attend a meeting.
- Vastine Alley will need attention once the homes being built are completed.
- There will be a dedication of a new sign on October 25 at 3 p.m. at West Eighth and Liberty Street. The new sign will indicate the street had been formerly known as German Street. Thanks to Bob Steffen for his work on this.
- Thanks to the East Row Garden Club, all the volunteers, and residents who recently purchased and helped plant 91 new trees throughout the City.
- Letters were sent to the Campbell and Kenton County Judge Executives from Mayor Carran of Covington and Mayor Peluso seeking support. Several thousand visitors are expected over the next twenty-four months with the coming celebrations of Covington's 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the All Star Game, opening of multiple segments of the Southbank corridor and other special events. The Veterans Fourth Street Bridge is in dire need of painting. KYTC does not have this scheduled for at least three years. The cost for painting is estimated at \$700,000 and the cost escalates to \$3m if maintenance work is also done. Southbank asks for pedestrian lanes to be widened to accommodate more pedestrian and bike traffic.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to adjourn**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Guidugli. 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 meeting adjourned at 8:00 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