

**City OF NEWPORT, KY**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Monday, May 22, 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 Frank Peluso, Commissioner Ken Rehtin, and Mayor Jerry Peluso. **Absent:** Commissioner Thomas Guidugli. Also in attendance were: City Manager Thomas Fromme, Assistant to the City Manager Larissa Sims, City Attorney Dan Braun, Police Chief Thomas Collins, Fire Chief Bill Darin, Historic Preservation Officer Scott Clark, Community Liaison Bev Holiday, and City Clerk Amy Able.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Mrs. Sims gave a presentation on OpenGov. The digital platform provides access to the city's financial reports. The interactive, digital format enables analysis and understanding of the city's finances. Three years of government spending and revenue is available through the user-friendly portal. Users can view historical revenue and expenditure trends over time and explore multiple views of financial data, including by fund, department, expense, or revenue type. The current year report provides insight into spending and revenues year-to-date.

**PUBLIC FORUM** No one present responded to the invitation to address the Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Peluso made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on Monday, April 24, 2017. Commissioner Fennell offered a second to the motion. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

<b>Commissioner Peluso:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Commissioner Rehtin:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Commissioner Fennell:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Mayor Peluso:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b><u>Motion carried 4-0.</u></b>

Commissioner Fennell made a motion to approve the minutes of the caucus meeting on Monday, May 8, 2017. Commissioner Peluso offered a second to the motion. 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 Rehtin:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Commissioner Peluso:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Mayor Peluso:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b><u>Motion carried 4-0.</u></b>

**OLD BUSINESS**

The City Clerk gave second reading to **O-2017-005**, an ordinance repealing Chapter 117 of the Code of Ordinances concerning the annual fee for taxicabs. Commissioner Fennell made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Peluso. 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 Rehtin:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<b>Commissioner Peluso:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Mayor Peluso:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b><u>Motion carried 4-0.</u></b>

The City Clerk gave second reading to **O-2017-006** an ordinance of the Board of Commissioners of the City of Newport, Kentucky enacting and adopting a supplement to the Code of Ordinances of the City of 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 Rehtin: Yes  
Commissioner Fennell: Yes      Mayor Peluso: Yes      Motion carried 4-0.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The City Clerk read **R-2017-017**, an order authorizing and directing the city manager to execute a **Mutual Fire Aid Agreement with the City of Cincinnati, Ohio**. Commissioner Fennell made a **motion to approve**; second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Rehtin. Chief Darin explained there had been earlier drafts of such an arrangement by former chiefs and the legal department but it had not been finalized. He said this makes sense as Cincinnati is closer than some Northern Kentucky departments (such as Alexandria) and some we have existing agreements with. The agreement is very similar to the agreement between Covington and Cincinnati. Responding to a question from the Board, Mr. Braun stated there are no shared cost arrangements included. Upon hearing there were no further comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Fennell: Yes      Commissioner Peluso: Yes  
Commissioner Rehtin: Yes      Mayor Peluso: Yes      Motion carried 4-0.

The City Clerk read **R-2017-018**, an order **adopting and implementing** the East Row Historic District **Design Review Guidelines** for use within the York Street Local Historic District. Commissioner Peluso made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Mr. Braun explained the Historic Preservation Commission decided to adopt the same guidelines for the York Street Local Historic District as had been used for East Row; pursuant to ordinance, adoption by the Board of Commissioners is done for codification. Mr. Clark added the notices announcing the public hearing stated the East Row Guidelines would be used and this was also stated at the Public Hearing and adopted by the Historic Preservation Commission. Notices have been prepared for sending to all property owners in the district. Commissioner Peluso suggested researching any way to attach notices to individual deeds that would be found through title search. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Peluso: Yes      Commissioner Rehtin: Yes  
Commissioner Fennell: Yes      Mayor Peluso: Yes      Motion carried 4-0.

The City Clerk read **R-2017-019**, an order authorizing the city manager to **accept the bids of various suppliers** for the Department of Community Services pursuant to bids received May 15, 2017. Commissioner Rehtin made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Peluso. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Rehtin: Yes      Commissioner Fennell: Yes  
Commissioner Peluso: Yes      Mayor Peluso: Yes      Motion carried 4-0.

The City Clerk read **R-2017-020** an order **declaring** certain personal property of the City of Newport as **surplus** and authorizing disposal in accordance with state law. Commissioner Peluso made a motion to approve, second to the motion was offered by Commissioner Fennell. Chief Collins explained the Explorer was a seized vehicle used for about six years and the trailer was used for the K-9 and related equipment for training. These items are very old and in disrepair. Upon hearing there were no comments or questions, the mayor called for a roll call vote.

Commissioner Peluso: Yes      Commissioner Rehtin: Yes  
Commissioner Fennell: Yes      Mayor Peluso: Yes      Motion carried 4-0.

### **COMMENTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Chief Collins stated the Police Department is busy as special events increase for the summer season. An estimated 39,000 participated in the Flying Pig, it was very successful. More events are in the weeks ahead including Memorial Day, Graduation, and the start of festival season.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE CITY MANAGER**

- Mr. Fromme thanked Mrs. Sims and Mr. Kuntz for their work launching OpenGov. (The City Clerk exited the room at 7:30.)
- The Memorial Day parade will be on Monday at 9 a.m. starting at 4<sup>th</sup> and York and concluding at the City Building where there will be a brief ceremony honoring fallen veterans.
- Italianfest will kick off on Thursday, June 8 and runs through Sunday, June 11.

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

Commissioner Rehtin

- Appreciate all the work on OpenGov. Looking forward to seeing more with utilization of additional facets.

Commissioner Fennell

- Echoed Commissioner Rehtin and thanked all involved. It will be a great tool for the Board as well as residents.
- Landscaping on the traffic islands is looking good throughout the City.
- Sympathy to the family of Betty Rice. She had been very involved with the Bicentennial Commission, her family was once very involved in local politics and descended from original settlers of the area.

Mayor Peluso

- In a spirit of comradery, the evening before Italianfest, elected and appointed officials from eight cities will participate in the annual Mayor's Bocci Ball tournament, Wednesday, June 7.
- The Taste of Newport will be on Monmouth on June 4.

(The City Clerk returned at 7:35.)

- Condolences to Mary Mitts, a retiree from the City, on the passing of her son Tom, an artist well known and loved in the city, he also served the City on the Code Enforcement Board. His memory will live on through his art.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Commissioner Rehtin: Yes      Commissioner Peluso: Yes

Commissioner Fennell: Yes      Mayor Peluso: Yes      **Motion carried 4-0.**

**The meeting adjourned at 7:40 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