

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 15, 2024, 6:00 PM

Pledge

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor George asked everyone present to join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order

1. Roll Call

The City Council of Newton, Iowa met in regular session at 6:00 P.M. on the above date in the Council Chambers at 101 West 4th Street South. Mayor George presided. Present Council Members: Mills, Mullan, Dalton, Hallam, Simbro, Ervin. Absent: None.

Presentation

2. National League of Cities - HomeServe service line protection program - Jody Rhone, Utilities Director & Ashley Shiwarski, Sr. Director, Business Development HomeServe

This program is sponsored by the National League of Cities. It offers optional protection for water, sewer, and in home plumbing service lines. They cover up to \$8500 towards each incident.

Citizen Participation

3. Donna Stumme, 401 E 10th St S, informed council that she had received praise for council member Mark Hallem for being kind, a good listener, and very nice. She also commented about receiving a nuisance notice following the flood and, due to the emergency, maybe there should be some compassion.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Ervin, seconded by Hallam to approve consent agenda items 4-17. Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mills to remove item # 7, Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 24-07), from the consent agenda to vote on it as an individual item. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The motion to remove item #7 was approved. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan to approve item # 7, Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 24-07). Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mills to amend the schedule by removing the top item for parcel 826301004 due to the emergency situation. AYES: Five. NAYS: Mullan. The amendment to the motion passed. AYES: Five. NAYS: Mullan.

4. July 1, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

5. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Newton Lodge #1270, B.P.O. Elks- LF0000274, 111 East 2nd Street, S

6. Certify Firefighter List

7. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 24-07)
Resolution 2024-241 adopted.

8. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 24-08)
Resolution 2024-242 adopted.

9. Resolution approving Task Order 24-03 with Strand Associates Engineering for application assistance in completing the 2024 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit
Resolution 2024-243 adopted.

10. Resolution approving Westwood Creek pump repairs
Resolution 2024-244 adopted.

11. Resolution approving Second amendment to contract with IEDA on \$600,000 Downtown Housing Grant
Resolution 2024-245 adopted.

12. Resolution authorizing the Iowa State University Child Passenger Safety Survey in the City of Newton Parks System
Resolution 2024-246 adopted.

13. Resolution approving payment to Axon, LLC for Police Department in-car and body camera system
Resolution 2024-247 adopted.

14. Resolution approving payment to MyGov, LLC. for nuisance reporting software
Resolution 2024-248 adopted.

15. Resolution approving a conflict waiver with Ahler's and Cooney P.C. and the City of Pella for law enforcement services at Iowa Speedway events
Resolution 2024-249 adopted.

16. Resolution setting a public hearing for the sale of City-owned property at 315, 319, and 321 East 8th Street South in Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
Resolution 2024-250 adopted.

17. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

18. Public Hearing on a Resolution awarding contract for the 2024-01 Downtown Streetscape Improvements Project
Mayor George stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above Resolution. There were no written comments. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Dalton to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
19. Resolution awarding contract for the 2024-01 Downtown Streetscape Improvements Project
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2024-251 adopted.
20. Public Hearing on a Resolution awarding contract for the 2024 HMA Resurfacing Project
Mayor George stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above Resolution. There were no written comments. Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mullan to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
21. Resolution awarding contract for the 2024 HMA Resurfacing Project
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2024-252 adopted.

Ordinance

22. Second Consideration of an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2016, Title V, Chapter 53: Stormwater Utility
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mills to approve the second consideration of the Ordinance. During discussions, it was moved by Mullan, seconded by Simbro to amend the ordinance setting the plan that would increase the rate by \$0.25 per year for 5 years due to the increasing cost of fixing the storm water. This would cancel the second consideration and council would start with the first reading of the amendment at the next meeting. AYES: Four. NAYS: Hallam, Ervin.

Resolution

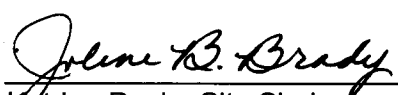
23. Resolution approving change order #3 for the WPC Plant Improvements Project
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2024-253 adopted.
24. Resolution Authorizing Temporary Positions in the Utility Billing Division of the Administration Department
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mills to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2024-254 adopted.
25. Resolution Authorizing Amendments to the City of Newton Employee Handbook Regarding Clothing Allowances
Moved by Simbro, seconded by Mills to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2024-255 adopted.
26. Resolution adopting the nuisance abatement contractor rate
Moved by Mills, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. Discussion ensued regarding the cost. It was moved by Ervin to amend the resolution to a \$75 per hour contractor rate versus the proposed \$100 per hour recommendation. The amendment died due to lack of second. AYES: Five. NAYS: Ervin. Resolution 2024-256 adopted.

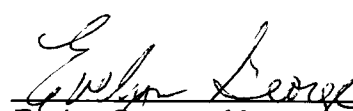
Mayor/Council Comments

27. Mayor and Council Comments
It was announced that FEMA would be back in town to work with citizens that needed assistance due to the flood. Ervin spoke about the success of the Indy race at the Iowa Speedway. He spent time with several people that were interested in investing in our community. Forty-four percent of Indy fans came from outside the state. The race was great for tourism, not only in Newton but also in Iowa. KCCI also did an interview with Craig Armstrong emphasizing many positives happening in Newton. Simbro shared a list of several streets with parking issues he received from Donna Stumme.

Adjourn

Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mills to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.


Katrina Davis, City Clerk
Jolene B. Brady, Deputy City Clerk


Evelyn George, Mayor

