

NEWTON SPECIAL MEETING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 7, 2025, 5:30 PM

Call to Order

1. Roll Call

The City Council of Newton, Iowa met in special session at 5:30 P.M. on the above date in the Council Chambers at 101 West 4th Street South. Mayor George presided. Present Council Members: Mills, Mullan (via telephone), Dalton, Hallam, Simbro, Ervin. Absent: None.

Public Hearing

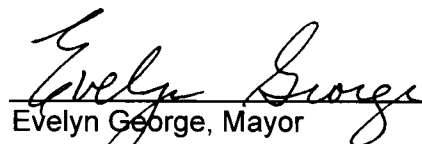
2. Public Hearing on the Proposed Property Tax Levy for Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

Mayor George stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the proposed property tax levy for fiscal year July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026. There were no written comments. Finance Officer, Lisa Frasier, spoke regarding the split of property taxes, with 42.86% going to the city. She provided examples of how the 65 credit and the military exception would affect the change in taxes. The majority of the changes in taxes were due to the state rollback going from .463428 to .474316. The notice that was sent out by the county assumed that all assessments went up by 10%. Very few houses went up that much. Jerry Kelley, 611 S 5th Ave W and Scott Mulbrook, 210 E 10th St S asked for clarification. Frasier explained that the rollback went up by 1%, some TIF funds were released, and any new homes built would add to the increased valuation. Ervin spoke about an Iowans for Tax Relief website, itrfoundation.org, that shows Newton and Jasper Co. are well under their expected target for taxation. Elfriede Ahrens, 818 E 10th St S, indicated that she was provided the over 65 credit form when she went to vote and how important the \$10,000 is to bringing young families to town to purchase homes. Fran Henderson, 1101 S 13th Ave E, spoke about legislative changes that could be coming that will affect property taxes. Eugene Lammers, 202 N 15th Ave W, indicated that he is inviting the Department of Government Officials to take a look at spending. Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mills to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.

Adjourn

Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mills to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.


Katrina Davis, City Clerk


Evelyn George, Mayor

