

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 5, 2025, 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, Ervin. Absent: Simbro.

Proclamation

2. 56th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation

Mayor George proclaimed May 4th - 10th as Professional Municipal Clerk Week.

3. National Police Week Proclamation

Mayor George proclaimed the week of May 11th - 17th as National Police Week and May 15th as National Peace Officer Memorial Day.

4. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week Proclamation

Mayor George proclaimed May 18th - 24th as Emergency Medical Services Week.

5. May is Building Safety Month

Mayor George proclaimed May is Building Safety Month.

6. May is National Preservation Month

Mayor George proclaimed May is National Preservation Month.

Presentation

7. Habitat for Humanity (Jasper County & State) update - Becca Decker & Rachel Ong

More than 11,000 low-income families are stuck in cost-burdened rental situations and 1 in 4 homes in neighborhoods with Habitat's focus need repair to preserve the home or maintain a basic level of safety. By 2030, Iowa will need to add 24,627 new housing units to accommodate new workers. In Jasper County, there have been 126 homeownership inquiries, 153 preservation inquiries, with 24 projects being completed. The total value of the repairs is \$535,515.

Citizen Participation

8. Erika Patterson, 1421 N 8th Ave E, and Alexis Young, 313 E 13th St N spoke in favor of allowing urban chickens. Carl Hentsch, 309 1st Ave W, spoke about their community participation and the applications for Downtown Grant funds.

Mayor George announced that item 41 on the agenda would be postponed for further review.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mullan to approve consent agenda items 9-32. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

9. April 16, 2025 Special City Council Meeting Minutes

10. April 21, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

11. April 21, 2025 Special City Council Meeting Minutes

12. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Casey's #1911 - LE0003308, 1018 1st Ave E, Class E Retail Alcohol License renewal; Newton/Des Moines East KOA - WBN001424, 1610 E 36th St S, Special Class B Retail Native Wine License renewal; The Venue & Public House, 211 N 2nd Ave W, amendment allowing temporary extension of outdoor service area including 200 block of N 2nd Ave W for car show June 13-14, 2025

13. Approve 2025-2026 Cigarette/Tobacco/Nicotine/Vapor License for the following: Fareway #848, 120 N 3rd Ave E; World Liquor & Tobacco + Vapors, 702 1st Ave E; World To Go, 403 1st Ave E

14. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 25-05)
Resolution 2025-168 adopted.

15. Resolution Approving a Property Tax Rebate for the McCann Housing Associates, LP
Property Located at 1105 East 12th Street South Within the McCann Urban Renewal

Area

Resolution 2025-169 adopted.

16. Resolution Approving a Property Tax Rebate for the Theisen's Property Located at 3021 1st Ave E Within the East Mart Urban Renewal Area
Resolution 2025-170 adopted.
17. Resolution Denying a Property Tax Rebate payment to Newton Elite Properties, LLC (Property located at 1123 1st Avenue East) for the Spring 2025 payment due to a violation of the Economic Development Agreement
Resolution 2025-171 adopted.
18. Resolution Approving Contract for Auditing Services and Preparation of Annual Financial Statements
Resolution 2025-172 adopted.
19. Resolution Approving Replacement Windows on the West Side of the Newton Police Department
Resolution 2025-173 adopted.
20. Resolution approving purchase of a pressure washer for the Public Works Community Development Wash Bay
Resolution 2025-174 adopted.
21. Resolution Amending the Downtown Improvement Grant for United Way of Jasper County at 312 First Avenue West
Resolution 2025-175 adopted.
22. Resolution Approving Amendment #001 to the Engineering Services Agreement for the Westwood Golf Course Bridge Replacement and Repair Project
Resolution 2025-176 adopted.
23. Resolution authorizing the submission of FY 2026 Airport State Funding Application and certifying eligibility requirements.
Resolution 2025-177 adopted.
24. Resolution Approving the Purchase of the Parks Utility Cart
Resolution 2025-178 adopted.
25. Resolution approving contract change order document for Westwood Clubhouse
Resolution 2025-179 adopted.
26. Resolution authorizing the purchase of pre-season salt for snow and ice control
Resolution 2025-180 adopted.
27. Resolution approving the purchase and installation of two gate valves for the Newton Sanitary Landfill
Resolution 2025-181 adopted.
28. Resolution accepting completion of work replacing the undercarriage of the Landfill 850L dozer
Resolution 2025-182 adopted.
29. Resolution approving CO-1 for the 2025 Westwood Grading Project
Resolution 2025-183 adopted.
30. Resolution ordering bids, approving plans, specifications, form of contract, notice to bidders, ordering clerk to publish notice, fixing a date for receiving same, for a public hearing on plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of costs for the North East Pump Station Improvements Project
Resolution 2025-184 adopted.
31. Resolution Setting a Date for a Public Hearing on the FY26-FY30 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
Resolution 2025-185 adopted.
32. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

33. Public Hearing on an Ordinance Establishing Partial Tax Exemption for Industrial Property
Mayor George stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above Ordinance. There were no written comments. Moved by Mills, seconded by Hallam to close the public hearing. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
34. First Consideration of an Ordinance Establishing Partial Tax Exemption for Industrial Property
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mills to approve the first consideration of the

Ordinance. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. First Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.

Ordinance

35. First Consideration of an Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2025, Title III: Administration, Chapter 30: Mayor and Council
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mills to approve the first consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. First Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.

Resolution

36. Resolution amending the Comprehensive Fee Schedule, Public Works Fees, by adding Solid Waste and Recycling Collection and Disposal Fee
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-186 adopted.
37. Resolution approving the granting of Downtown Improvement Grant funds for 309 1st Avenue West, Newton, Iowa in the Facade Rehabilitation Program Area
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-187 adopted.
38. Resolution approving a low-moderate income housing set-aside grant for 2122 North 4th Avenue East, Newton
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-188 adopted.
39. Resolution approving a low-moderate income housing set-aside grant for 2014 South 3rd Avenue East, Newton
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mills to adopt the Resolution. Corey McCoy, 2014 S 3rd Ave E, and his family have been in Newton for about 3 -4 years and appreciate the opportunity to improve their property. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-189 adopted.
40. Resolution Approving a D&D 2.0 Demolition Grant for 1010 East 8th Street North, Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-190 adopted.
41. Resolution approving the Westwood Clubhouse Facility Rental Policy and Adding Westwood Clubhouse Facility Rental Fee to the City of Newton Comprehensive Fee Schedule
Postponed to the May 19, 2025 council meeting.
42. Resolution approving the purchase of a Cemetery Zero Turn Mower
Moved by Mullan, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Four. NAYS: None. ABSTAINED: Dalton. Resolution 2025-191 adopted.
43. Resolution approving Change Order 02 to the contract for the City of Newton Fire Department Engine Bay Floor Reinforcing Project
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-192 adopted.
44. Resolution approving Change Order 03 to the contract for the City of Newton Fire Department Engine Bay Floor Reinforcing Project
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-193 adopted.

Staff Report

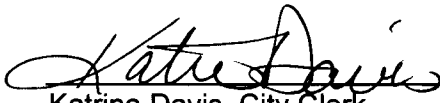
45. Annual Fire Report - Jarrod Wellik, Fire Chief
For the fiscal year 2023–2024, there were a total of 3,544 calls; 3,152 EMS calls and 392 Fire calls. The Fire Department also visited all the schools for fire safety training, tested hydrants, tested hoses, and ladders.

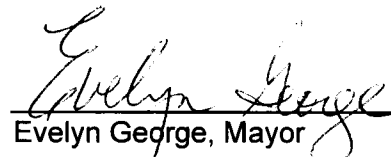
Mayor/Council Comments

46. Mayor and Council Comments
Mayor George reminded the community to attend the Newton Police Department and the Jasper County Sheriff's Office at the Annual Jasper County Law Enforcement Memorial, Thursday, May 15, 2025, from 5:30-6:00 pm, to remember the sacrifice of our fallen brothers and to recognize the devotion of our current Law Enforcement Service members. She also invited citizens to attend the Newton Main Street public input session at the DMACC Auditorium to hear the results of the input survey and share their thoughts at Community Night on Tuesday, May 6th, from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Adjourn

Moved by Mills, seconded by Mullan to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.


Katrina Davis, City Clerk


Evelyn George, Mayor

