

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 7, 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, Simbro, Ervin. Absent: None.

Proclamation

2. Honoring Dr. Orville Bunker for 32 Years as Medical Director for the Newton Fire Department

Mayor George proclaimed that the City of Newton extends its sincere gratitude and best wishes to Dr. Bunker in all his future endeavors, and encourages all citizens to join in honoring his outstanding contributions to our community.

Citizen Participation

3. Sandy Perry, 1502 N 2nd Ave W, spoke with regard to a nuisance notice that she received.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Mullan, seconded by Hallam to approve consent agenda items 4-22. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

4. June 16, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

5. June 23, 2025 Workshop Minutes

6. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Newtonia (formerly Cobblestone Inn & Suites), 4222 S. 22nd Ave. E., Special Class C Retail Alcohol License and Outdoor Service; PB Pub - LC0045655, 113 1st Ave E, Class C Retail Alcohol License and Outdoor Service renewal pending dramshop review

7. Approve 2025-2026 Cigarette/Tobacco/Nicotine/Vapor License for the following: Avail Vapor Texas LLC, 3333 Rusty Wallacy Dr.

8. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 25-08)
Resolution 2025-266 adopted.

9. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 25-07)
Resolution 2025-267 adopted.

10. Resolution Authorizing Additional Fund Transfers in FY24/25
Resolution 2025-268 adopted.

11. Resolution approving change order #2 for the 1st Ave (Highway 6) Signal Improvement Project
Resolution 2025-269 adopted.

12. Resolution accepting completion of the Southwest Public Works Building Roof Rehabilitation Project
Resolution 2025-270 adopted.

13. Resolution approving a one (1) year supplemental agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation for City maintenance of U.S. Highway 6
Resolution 2025-271 adopted.

14. Resolution accepting a permanent Utility easement located at 345 W 28th St S
Resolution 2025-272 adopted.

15. Resolution authorizing the purchase of materials for new water main to Westwood Golf Course Clubhouse
Resolution 2025-273 adopted.

16. Resolution Approving Amendment #001 to Agreement for Professional Services Between City of Newton, Iowa and Bolton and Menk for Aurora Park Tennis Courts Project
Resolution 2025-274 adopted.

17. Resolution Awarding the Purchase of SCBA Equipment for the Fire Department
Resolution 2025-275 adopted.
18. Resolution accepting completion of the 2025 Fire Hydrant Painting Project
Resolution 2025-276 adopted.
19. Resolution Accepting Completion of the Newton Public Library Furnace Replacement and Installation Project
Resolution 2025-277 adopted.
20. Resolution amending resolution 2025-109 approving the purchase and up-fit services for three police patrol vehicles
Resolution 2025-278 adopted.
21. 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 2025 Westwood Patio Project
Resolution 2025-279 adopted.

22. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

23. Public Hearing on an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, Title XV: Land Usage, Chapter 152: Swimming Pools
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 Dalton, seconded by Hallam to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
24. First Consideration of an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, Title XV: Land Usage, Chapter 152: Swimming Pools
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Hallam to approve the first consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. First Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.

Motion

25. Motion to Reconsider the Motion Postponing Action to August 4, 2025 on the Resolution Approving the Purchase of 209 South 15th Avenue West for the Dangerous and Dilapidated Program
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan to approve the Motion. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion passed.

Resolution

26. Resolution approving the purchase of 209 South 15th Avenue West for the Dangerous and Dilapidated Program
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mills to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: Ervin. Resolution 2025-280 adopted.
27. Resolution Amending Fee Schedule for Commercial Building Trades Permit Fees
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-281 adopted.
28. Resolution Authorizing Approval of the City of Newton Employee Handbook as Amended
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-282 adopted.
29. Resolution authorizing a Range adjustment for the IT Support Specialist position
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-283 adopted.
30. Resolution Approving Support from the City of Newton to Des Moines Area Community College for the Community Attraction & Tourism Grant Application for the Legacy Plaza Green Space
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Ervin to adopt the Resolution. Joe Pugel, 2458 S 32nd Ave W, DMACC Board of Trustees, spoke in favor of the benefits. Council discussion ensued regarding the effect of the North Central Urban Renewal Area funds. AYES: Four. NAYS: Mullan, Simbro. Resolution 2025-284 adopted.
31. Resolution Approving Support from the City of Newton to the MercyOne Newton Emergency Department Renovation Project
Moved by Mills, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution. Chad Kelley, Chief Operating Officer MercyOne Newton, spoke regarding the benefits of the ER renovation when residents come to get care. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-285 adopted.

32. Resolution Approving the Real Estate Purchase Agreement for the East 10 feet of the Property located at 2009 1st Avenue East, Newton, Jasper County, Iowa for the Aurora Tennis Courts Project
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Ervin to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-286 adopted.

Staff Report

33. Police Department Mid-Year Report - Police Chief, Rob Burdess
Chief Burdess presented 2025 mid-year stats including 7,868 calls for service, 140 person crimes, and 174 property crimes. The property crime rate has dropped by 50% over the past five years. There were 21 calls for service regarding fireworks with 1 citation issued. 523 parking tickets have been issued. 370 grass complaints were reported. Several officers participated in the Cops and Bobbers event and Newton Fest.

Discussion

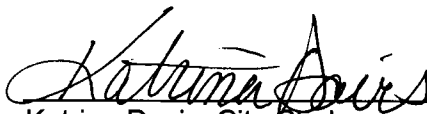
34. Westwood Golf Course Staffing - Erin Chambers, Community Development Director
Chambers presented the need for cooking help with the opening of the new clubhouse and the additional food items that are available. A resolution will be on the next agenda for the year around part-time cooking positions. Funds would come from the Westwood Golf Enterprise fund.

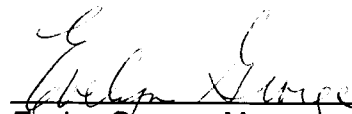
Mayor/Council Comments

35. Mayor and Council Comments
Hallam spoke about the amateur radio association's field day a week ago on Saturday. He also attended an art opening in the Middle Gallery. Also, the Newton Knight Hawks are being resurrected. He encourages everyone to come to the Farmers Markets at Legacy. Mayor George announced that we had a great 4th of July event.

Adjourn

Moved by Mills, seconded by Mullan to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.


Katrina Davis, City Clerk


Evelyn George, Mayor

