

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 4, 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 (via telephone), Hallam, Simbro, Ervin. Absent: None.

Citizen Participation

2. There was no citizen participation.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mills to approve consent agenda items 3-12. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

3. July 21, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

4. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 25-10)
Resolution 2025-310 adopted.

5. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 25-09)
Resolution 2025-311 adopted.

6. Resolution accepting the Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant for Cardinal Pond Fishing Pier Improvements
Resolution 2025-312 adopted.

7. Resolution authorizing City Staff to apply for the Iowa Tourism Grant Program to support a digital marketing campaign promoting the City of Newton
Resolution 2025-313 adopted.

8. Resolution approving the purchase of equipment for the City fitness facility
Resolution 2025-314 adopted.

9. Resolution accepting completion of the Demolition 2025-01 Project
Resolution 2025-315 adopted.

10. Resolution accepting completion of the Demolition 2025-02 Project
Resolution 2025-316 adopted.

11. Resolution approving change order #2 for Aurora Tennis Court Project
Resolution 2025-317 adopted.

12. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

13. Public Hearing on Resolution awarding contract for the 2025 Westwood Patio 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 Mullan, seconded by Hallam to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.

14. Resolution awarding contract for the 2025 Westwood Patio Project
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Ervin to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-318 adopted.

Ordinance

15. Third 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 third consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Third Consideration of the Ordinance was approved. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan, to adopt the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Ordinance 2471 was adopted.

16. Second Consideration of an Ordinance Amending The Code of Ordinances, City Of Newton, Iowa, 2025, Title XI, Chapter 111 Peddlers, Solicitors, Transient Merchants, And Mobile Food Units, Section 111.07 Mobile Food Unit Standards
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mullan to approve the second consideration of the

Ordinance. AYES: Four. NAYS: Mills, Simbro. Second Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.

17. Second Consideration of an Ordinance adding 1601 North 15th Avenue East to the listing of Industrial Property Tax Abatements
Moved by Simbro, seconded by Mills to approve the second consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Second Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.

Resolution

18. Resolution approving a low-moderate income housing set-aside grant for 1010 North 5th Avenue East, Newton
Moved by Mills, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: Ervin. Resolution 2025-319 adopted.
19. Resolution approving a low-moderate income housing set-aside grant for 309 East 20th Street North, Newton
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. Todd Hackathorn, 309 E 20th St N, had questions about the process. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-320 adopted.
20. Resolution approving Contract for Commercial and Industrial Economic Development Services with Newton Development Corporation
Moved by Mills, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mills to amend the resolution by approving the contract that was brought before the board at the previous council meeting except having an expiration date of 06/30/2029. Mills confirmed this would take all the updated changes that were added back out of the contract. Simbro stated that he would like the changes kept in the contract in order to keep focus and direction. AYES: Five. NAYS: Simbro. The amendment to consider the original contract with a 06/30/2029 expiration date was adopted. Moved by Simbro to postpone the resolution to the next meeting. Motion to postpone failed due to a lack of a second. AYES: Five. NAYS: Simbro. Resolution 2025-321 was adopted as amended.
21. Resolution approving Contract for Professional Community and Economic Development Services by and between the City of Newton, Iowa and Newton Housing Development Corporation
Moved by Simbro, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. Jennifer Cook, representing NHDC, stated that the contract presented with the changes had not been approved by the board. Moved by Ervin, seconded by Hallam to amend the resolution by approving the contract that was brought before the board at the previous council meeting. Simbro stated that he would like the changes kept in the contract in order to keep focus and direction. AYES: Five. NAYS: Simbro. The amendment to consider the original contract was adopted. AYES: Five. NAYS: Simbro. Resolution 2025-322 was adopted as amended.
22. Resolution amending the Cemetery Rules and Regulations relating to decorations at the columbarium in Union Cemetery
Moved by Mills, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-323 adopted.
23. Resolution approving an amendment to the adopted Low-Moderate Income Set Aside Policy
Moved by Mullan, seconded by Ervin to adopt the Resolution. Council discussion ensued. Moved by Ervin, seconded by Dalton to postpone the resolution until council has an opportunity to present a more desirable item. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion to postpone passed.

Mayor/Council Comments

24. Mayor and Council Comments
Mills thanked council and staff for their work to make Newton better. He is glad we can work together when there is so much turmoil in the nation. Ervin confirmed the city council did not take any votes on changing the Homecoming Parade route after hearing a statement that the city had recommended the route be changed. Ervin also thanked Mayor George for her work as Mayor. Mayor George thanked Mullan for taking over as Pro-Tem at the Iowa Speedway and thanked Hallam for welcoming the Our Iowa Magazine bus tour. Mullan met a couple from Long Island at the race. He filled them in on all the positive things in Newton. He saw plates from all over. Ervin shared that he and Mills met up with three people from Japan that had the opportunity to attend the race.

Adjourn

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

carried by voice vote.

Katrina Davis
Katrina Davis, City Clerk

Evelyn George
Evelyn George, Mayor

