

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 18, 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.

Citizen Participation

2. Jeff Farver, 909 E 7th St S, requested that council consider paving E 7th St S a priority. It is currently a gravel road that washes into 8th Ave, and he invites all the council members to come by and drive the street. Ken Sepeda, 1114 N 4th Ave W, is concerned about excessive speeding on N 4th Ave W.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mullan to approve consent agenda items 3-16. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

3. August 8, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
4. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Hy-Vee Fast & Fresh - LE0003889, 1421 1st Ave E, and Hy-Vee Food Store #1 - LE0000090, 1501 1st Ave E, Class E Retail Alcohol License, ownership changes
5. Resolution Adopting 2025 S20 Supplement to the "Code of Ordinances of the City of Newton, Iowa, 2025," and Approving Distribution of the Same to Code Subscribers
- Resolution 2025-324 adopted.
6. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 25-10)
Resolution 2025-325 adopted.
7. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 25-11)
Resolution 2025-326 adopted.
8. Resolution approving Change Order #1 for the 2025 Westwood Patio project
Resolution 2025-327 adopted.
9. Resolution approving Change Order #2 and accepting completion of the 2024 Streetscape Improvement Project
Resolution 2025-328 adopted.
10. Resolution awarding contract for the 2025 Aurora Park Parking Lot removal
Resolution 2025-329 adopted.
11. Resolution awarding contract for the 2025 City of Newton Tree Removal Project No. 1
Resolution 2025-330 adopted.
12. Resolution awarding contract for the 2025 City of Newton Tree Removal Project No. 2
Resolution 2025-331 adopted.
13. Resolution approving the purchase of patio furniture for Westwood Clubhouse
Resolution 2025-332 adopted.
14. Resolution Authorizing the Newton Fire Department to accept the 2025 Local Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services Grant award and agreement in the amount of \$5,250.00 and purchase the inflatable fire safety house
Resolution 2025-333 adopted.
15. 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 HMA Alley Overlay Project
Resolution 2025-334 adopted.
16. Approve Bills

Ordinance

17. Third 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 third consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Four. NAYS: Mills, Simbro. Third Consideration of the Ordinance was approved. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Ervin, to adopt the Ordinance. AYES: Four. NAYS: Simbro, Mills. Ordinance 2472 was adopted.
18. Third Consideration of an Ordinance adding 1601 North 15th Avenue East to the listing of Industrial Property Tax Abatements
Moved by Mills, seconded by Simbro to approve the third consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Third Consideration of the Ordinance was approved. Moved by Mills, seconded by Hallam, to adopt the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Ordinance 2473 was adopted.
19. First consideration of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa 2025, Title VII, Chapter 70, Section 70.15 "Traffic and Parking Schedules Adopted by Reference" to make changes to parking in the 200 Block of North Third Avenue West and the 200 Block of West Third Street North
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan to approve the first consideration of the Ordinance. Moved by Dalton to amend the ordinance eliminating only the spot on W 3rd St N and not the N 3rd Ave W spot. Motion fails for a lack of a second. AYES: Five. NAYS: Dalton. First Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.
20. First consideration of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa 2025, Title VII, Chapter 70, Section 70.15, "Traffic and Parking Schedules Adopted by Reference" to add stops signs on West Third Street North at North Third Avenue West
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mullan to approve the first consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. First Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.
21. First consideration of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa 2025, Title VII, Chapter 70, Section 70.15, "Traffic and Parking Schedules Adopted by Reference" to add stop signs on East Twelfth Street South at South Thirteenth Avenue East
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mills to approve the first consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. First Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.

Resolution

22. Resolution approving the site plan for 1601 North 15th Avenue East
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Ervin to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-335 adopted.
23. Resolution Approving the purchase of 827 East 8th Street South for the Dangerous and Dilapidated Program
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-336 adopted.

Staff Report

24. Fire Department Update - Chief Jarrod Wellik
Chief Wellik provided details on the Fire Department stats for the past year. They took 3,677 total calls for service; 394 of them being fire calls.

Mayor/Council Comments

25. Mayor and Council Comments
Mayor George shared her visit to the Chamber's Business and Community Expo on Saturday. There were a good number of businesses there. Tomorrow night the Farmers Market will have 66 vendors, including youth entrepreneurs. Coming up is The Bowlful of Blues preview, and there will be food trucks. The next city council meeting will be Tuesday, September 2nd due to Labor Day.

Closed Session

26. To Discuss Strategy with Counsel in Matters that Are Presently in Litigation or Where Litigation is Imminent Where its Disclosure Would be Likely to Prejudice or Disadvantage the Position of the Governmental Body in that Litigation, Which Discussions are Exempt from the Open Meetings Law Pursuant to the Provision of Section 21.5(1)(c), Code of Iowa 2025.
At 7:17 P.M., it was moved by Ervin, seconded by Hallam to go into closed session. The city attorney advised the council that they had legal authority to do so. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The motion passed.

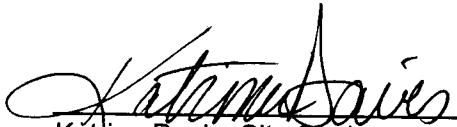
Return to Open Session

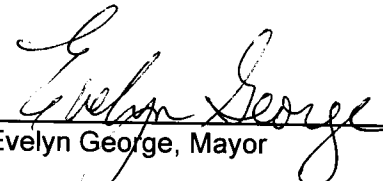
27. Return to Open Session

Council returned to open session at 8:04 P.M. with all members present.

Adjourn

Moved by Mills, seconded by Dalton to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.


Katrina Davis, City Clerk


Evelyn George, Mayor

