



Newton City Council Agenda

November 3, 2025 - 6:00 PM

View the City Council Meeting:

In Person

City Hall - Council Chambers
101 W 4th St S, Newton, IA 50208

Television

Mediacom Channel
12/85/121.12

Online

newtongov.org/cablecast

Pledge

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order

1. Roll Call

Citizen Participation

2. This is the time of the meeting that a citizen may address the Council. After being recognized by the presiding officer, each person will be given three (3) minutes to speak. Elected officials will take comments into consideration; however, this time is not intended for a discussion or entering into a dialogue. Elected officials and City staff will not answer questions or debate a citizen during the *Citizen Participation* portion of the meeting

Consent Agenda

3. October 20, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
4. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Brew #96, 1325 1st Ave W and Brew #101, 1806 S 12th Ave W, Class B Retail Alcohol License, pending staff review
5. Approve the FY25 Annual Financial Report
6. Approve the FY25 Street Finance Report
7. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 25-15)
8. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 25-16)
9. Resolution Approving the Annual Urban Renewal Report for Fiscal Year 2024-2025
10. Resolution Approving a Property Tax Rebate for the Nehring Auto Property Located at 1800 1st Ave E Within the 1st Avenue East Urban Renewal Area
11. Resolution approving a Telecommunications Licensing Agreement with Unite Private Networks – UPN 10237
12. Resolution approving change order #1 for S 4th Ave PI E Clearing and Grubbing Project
13. Resolution Amending previously approved low-moderate income housing set-aside grant for 712 West 6th Street South, Newton

14. Resolution Approving the Annual Support Fees for the Fire Department Record Management Software
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 1st Ave E and E 12th Street Drainage Improvements Project
16. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

17. Public Hearing on a Resolution awarding contract for the 2025 City of Newton Camera Project
 - The 2025 City of Newton Camera Project is aimed at improving the safety and security of citizens of Newton and the city's buildings, infrastructure, and parks
 - Bids were requested with an estimated cost of \$135,000.
 - The lowest responsive bidder was Mahaska Communication Group LLC, of Oskaloosa, Iowa with a bid of \$127,358.
18. Resolution awarding contract for the 2025 City of Newton Camera Project
19. Public Hearing on a resolution to award a contract for the Westwood Golf Course Bridge Replacement and Repairs Project.
 - On May 21, 2024, the City of Newton experienced heavy rains that resulted in flash flooding. The flooding caused significant bank erosion along the creek running through the golf course and destroyed the pedestrian bridge at Hole 16.
 - Bolton & Menk Engineering has completed the design, plans, and specifications for a project to stabilize the creek bank and provide long-term hazard mitigation.
 - Quotes were received and opened on October 28, 2025, with an apparent low quote of \$516,458.00 received from Caliber Concrete.
20. Resolution awarding contract for the Westwood Golf Course Bridge Replacement and Repairs Project.
21. Public Hearing on an Ordinance amending City of Newton Code of Ordinances Title IX: General Regulations, Chapter 94: Public Nuisances and Title XV, Land Usage, Chapter 158: Zoning pertaining to Urban Chickens & Ducks
 - Interested citizens have requested consideration of code changes that would allow for an expanded allowance of chickens/ducks on residential properties in Newton.
 - For the past several months, the Planning and Zoning Commission has been reviewing and discussing the matter of urban chickens/ducks.
 - At their meeting on October 21st, the Planning and Zoning Commission had a vote of 3-1 on the attached ordinance.

Ordinance

22. First Consideration of an Ordinance amending City of Newton Code of Ordinances Title XV, Chapter 94 and Chapter 158 pertaining to Urban Chickens
23. Second Consideration of an Ordinance Terminating the Southwest Newton Economic Development Urban Renewal area Plan and Ending the Southwest Newton Economic Development Urban Renewal Area
 - In 2001, the City Council of Newton, Iowa enacted Ordinance No. 2000 that created the Southwest Newton Economic Development Urban Renewal Area. In later years, the City Council enacted several ordinances to amend the URA's taxing districts.
 - All debt has been paid by the Urban Renewal Area and the 20-year limitation for collecting taxes on an Economic Development URA has passed. This action officially terminates the Urban Renewal area and plan.
24. Second consideration of an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, IA, 2025, Title VII, Chapter 71, "Traffic Regulations" to add Section 70.13 "Engine Braking"
 - The City has received noise complaints relating to engine braking on the east side of town.
 - Engine brakes are sometimes used by commercial vehicles to slow down, producing excessively loud noise.
 - City staff proposes an ordinance prohibiting the use of an engine brake except in emergency situations.
25. 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 street parking in the 100-300 Block of North Second Avenue East.
 - Prior to the 2024 streetscape project in the 100-300 block of N 2nd Ave E, compact parking was necessary at the ends of each block for line of sight, due to diagonal parking.
 - With the conversion to parallel parking, the compact parking designations are unnecessary.
 - The Traffic Safety Committee recommends removing the compact parking designation in the ordinance.

Resolution

26. Resolution Amending the Low-Mod Income Housing Set Aside Funds Policy to allow for Council to consider awarding grants to completed water or sewer service line projects that are deemed as an emergency
 - The City's Low-Mod Income Housing Set Aside Policy has been a successful tool in improving quality, affordable housing.

- It has become apparent that there are instances where work to water or sewer service lines is immediate and cannot fit within the pre-approval requirements.
- The amendment to the policy allows for council to approve grants to completed water or sewer service line projects that are documented and deemed by the Council as emergency situations. No other program areas would be eligible for this allowance.

27. Resolution approving a Low-Moderate Income Housing Set-Aside Grant for 619 East 7th Street South, Newton

- The owner of 619 East 7th Street North has made an application in the Plumbing Category, and has submitted a quote for the work. The owner and the property meet the requirements of the City's LMI Existing Housing Improvement Grant program.
- The resolution approves a \$4,496.25 grant for 619 East 7th Street North.

28. Resolution approving a Low-Moderate Income Housing Set-Aside Grant for 719 North 10th Avenue East, Newton

- The owner of 719 North 10th Avenue East has made an application in the Plumbing Category, and has submitted a quote for the work. The owner and the property meet the requirements of the City's LMI Existing Housing Improvement Grant program.
- The resolution approves a \$5,625.00 grant for 719 North 10th Avenue East.

29. Resolution approving a Low-Moderate Income Housing Set-Aside Grant for 805 East 9th Street South, Newton.

- The owner of 805 East 9th Street South has made an application in the Exterior Treatments Category, and has submitted a quote for the work. The owner and the property meet the requirements of the City's LMI Existing Housing Improvement Grant program.
- The resolution approves an \$11,250.00 grant for 619 East 7th Street North.

30. Resolution approving a Low-Moderate Income Housing Set-Aside Grant for 428 East 10th Street South, Newton.

- The owner of 428 East 10th Street South has made an application in the Roofing and Exterior Treatments Categories, and has submitted quotes for the work. The owner and the property meet the requirements of the City's LMI Existing Housing Improvement Grant program.
- The resolution approves a \$10,012.50 grant for 428 East 10th Street South.

31. Resolution approving a Low-Moderate Income Housing Set-Aside Grant for 612 South 5th Avenue West, Newton.
- The owner of 612 South 5th Avenue West has made an application in the Plumbing Category, and has submitted a quote for the work. The owner and the property meet the requirements of the City's LMI Existing Housing Improvement Grant program.
 - The resolution approves an \$8,000 grant for 612 South 5th Avenue West.
32. Resolution naming 224 West 3rd Street North Harmony Park and officially designating the property as part of the City Parks system
- As construction of the splash pad features on 224 W 3rd Street N is nearing completion, it is necessary to officially designate and name the park.
 - At their meeting on September 18, 2024, the Newton Park Board recommended officially naming the property "Harmony Park."
33. Resolution Updating the Fee Schedule for Westwood Golf Course
- It is desirable to adjust the golf course fees for 2026.
 - The fee schedule is built around increasing the cost to play a round of golf and cart rental on a weekend by \$5.00. Everything else is adjusted proportionally.
34. Resolution approving the Maytag Park Slate Roof Repair Project
- The Maytag Park Caretakers House and West Shelter were damaged as a result of the May 7th, 2023 hail storm.
 - The Maytag Park Caretakers House is a contributing structure to the Maytag Park Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
 - Insurance proceeds will fully cover the repair of the slate roof, which will be completed with slate material in accordance with recommendations for historic properties.
35. Resolution accepting completion of the Newton Municipal Airport Rehabilitate Runway 14/32 Project AIP Project #3-19-0065-022-2024
- The Newton Airport Runway 14/32 needed repairs due to the deterioration.
 - Gee Asphalt Systems, Inc. of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was awarded the contract for \$1,078,989.34 on June 17, 2024.
 - The project has been substantially completed in general compliance with the terms, conditions, and stipulations of said contract. The final contract amount, based on actual measured quantities of work completed, is \$1,066,088.49.

- This action would accept the project and authorize payment of the retainage amount of \$244,525.46

36. Resolution approving an Engineering Services Agreement for Arbor Estates 3rd Addition

- The City, in partnership with the Newton Housing Development Corporation (NHDC), has been working to increase residential subdivision development in northeast Newton. Recently completed projects focused on the Arbor Estates site, with the construction of Plats 1 and 2.
- This resolution seeks approval for a new ESA needed to construct the next project: Arbor Estates 3rd Addition.
- This project would plat an estimated 16 new residential lots, and complete public improvements in all currently unimproved areas along N 9th Ave E between E 23rd St N and E 26th St N.

37. Resolution authorizing the Public Works Civil Engineer Technician (CET) II at Range 7, Step 12 on the City of Newton salary schedule matrix

- The Civil Engineer Technician I has taken on additional duties and responsibilities and has expanded his knowledge base.
- The employee is currently meeting all requirements and qualifications needed for the CET II position.
- To reflect this, the resolution would authorize the CET II position at Pay Range 7, Step 12

Mayor/Council Comments

38. Mayor and Council Comments

Closed Session

39. 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

Return to Open Session

40. Return to Open Session

Closed Session

41. To Evaluate The Professional Competency Of Individuals Whose Appointment, Hiring, Performance Or Discharge Is Being Considered When Necessary To Prevent Needless And Irreparable Injury To That Individual's Reputation And That Individual Request A Closed Session. Pursuant To The Provisions Of Section 21.5(1)(i), Code of Iowa 2025

Return to Open Session

42. Return to Open Session

Adjourn

The City of Newton is pleased to provide reasonable accommodations, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, for those individuals or groups who require assistance to be able to participate in the public meeting. Should special accommodations be required, please contact the City Clerk's Office at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting, at 641-792-2787 to arrange for accommodations to be provided.

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