



Newton City Council Agenda

November 17, 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. November 3, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
4. November 3, 2025 Budget Workshop Minutes
5. Resolution appointing Wesley Breckenridge to fill an unexpired term to the Newton Planning and Zoning Commission ending December 31, 2028
6. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 25-16)
7. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 25-17)
8. Resolution approving suspension of Civil Service hiring practices for entrance positions as authorized by Iowa Code Section 400.12A for the period November 18, 2025 through November 18, 2026
9. Resolution approving CO #1 and accepting completion of 2025 Nuisance Sidewalk Project
10. Resolution Authorizing Urban Renewal Area activities to be Certified and Decertified as TIF Indebtedness
11. Resolution Approving a Property Tax Rebate for the Best Midwest Properties LLC Property Located at 109 1st Ave W Within the North Central Urban Renewal Area
12. Resolution Authorizing the Private Sale of 602 East 13th Street North and Releasing the Purchase and Redevelopment Agreement

13. Resolution Accepting Donation from Curtis Jackson Estate and Authorizing the Mayor to Sign the Donation Agreement
14. Resolution approving lease agreement for the cropland lease for the 2026-2028 growing seasons at the Newton Sanitary Landfill
15. Resolution awarding contract for the 2025 City of Newton Tree Removal Project No. 3
16. Resolution Claiming Less than the Maximum Allowable Revenue from the East Mart Tax Increment Financing District for Fiscal Year 2026-2027
17. Resolution Claiming Less than the Maximum Allowable Revenue from the 1st Avenue East Tax Increment Financing District for Fiscal Year 2026-2027
18. Resolution Claiming Less than the Maximum Allowable Revenue from the Speedway/Prairie Fire Tax Increment Financing District for Fiscal Year 2026-2027
19. Resolution setting the date for a public hearing on proposal to enter into General Obligation Loan Agreements and to borrow money thereunder
20. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

21. Public Hearing on a Resolution Approving the Sale of City-owned Property at 214 East 4th Street North, 411 North 3rd Avenue East, 421 North 3rd Avenue East, 427 North 3rd Avenue East, and 215 East 5th Street North in Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
 - The City has acquired the subject properties through the D&D program and cleared the dilapidated homes. Acquisition of these properties occurred between 2018 and 2024.
 - The City has received one offer for the properties from Young Buck Construction LLC for a total amount of \$5,000, \$1,000 per lot, with a commitment to construct five new homes on the properties.

22. Resolution Approving the Sale of City-owned Property at 214 East 4th Street North, 411 North 3rd Avenue East, 421 North 3rd Avenue East, 427 North 3rd Avenue East, and 215 East 5th Street North in Newton, Jasper County, Iowa

Ordinance

23. Third 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. Third 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. Second 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 Terminating the Southwest Newton Economic Development Urban Renewal Area Plan and Ending the Southwest Newton Economic Development Urban Renewal Area
 - This Urban Renewal Area 20-year limitation on Economic Development, URA, has passed. Council has adopted the Ordinance terminating the Southwest Newton Economic Development Urban Renewal Area and this resolution finalizes the process.
27. Resolution adopting the 2025 Newton City Council Rules of Procedure
 - Effective July 1, 2024, the Iowa Legislature changed Iowa Code § 21.8, requiring governmental bodies, including city councils, to provide electronic access for council members to participate in official meetings. Staff recommends amending Rule 8 and the new Rule 16 to include this change and adding Rule 15 to address the policy and procedure regarding Service Animals.

28. Resolution establishing the fine amount for violations of the engine brake ordinance
- City Council is considering the adoption of an engine brake ordinance
 - If adopted, City staff recommends a fine amount of \$105, plus applicable court costs and surcharges
29. Resolution authorizing the utilities department to enter into an installation agreement with ROI Energy for the water treatment LED lighting upgrade project
- The Utilities Department continues to pursue projects that improve energy efficiency and reduce operating costs. The existing lighting at the Water Treatment Plant is outdated, inefficient, and deteriorated due to the facility's high-humidity environment.
 - ROI Energy completed an energy audit and recommended replacing the current 125 fixtures with modern, energy-efficient LED lighting. The company provides a turnkey service, coordinating installation through local electrical contractors and managing all rebate and incentive filings.
 - The total project cost is \$26,629.00, with \$6,039.00 in incentives applied, resulting in a net cost of \$20,590.00. The upgrade is expected to save approximately \$2,145.00 annually.

Mayor/Council Comments

30. Mayor and Council Comments

Closed Session

31. 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

32. 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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