

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 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. Darnell Loatman, founder of the non-profit group Focuss, Focus On Community Uplifting Self-esteem and Success, introduced themselves. He indicated their crisis team has been in Newton approximately 40 times in the last 3 months for youth crisis events. Their plans are to invest in a center in Newton and are looking for matching donations. They currently take them to Polk County for a 23-hour hold but parents struggle to pick them up. They will have a soft opening for the center in Polk County. He will send an invitation, so people can see what it looks like.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan to approve consent agenda items 3-20. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

3. December 1, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
4. December 1, 2025 Workshop Minutes
5. Approve Cigarette/Tobacco/Nicotine/Vapor License for the following: Tobacco Vape & Ecig Newton, LLC - 1126 1st Ave E, 2025-2026 Device Permit
6. Resolution appointing City Clerk and Deputy City Clerks
Resolution 2025-463 adopted.
7. Resolution Reappointing David Zellinger to serve on the Civil Service Commission for a term ending December 31, 2029
Resolution 2025-464 adopted.
8. Resolution Re-appointing Antonia Sicilia to serve on the Building Trades Board for a term ending December 31, 2028
Resolution 2025-465 adopted.
9. Resolution appointing Donald Fitzgerald to serve on the Newton Zoning Board of Adjustment for a term ending December 31, 2030
Resolution 2025-466 adopted.
10. Resolution Re-appointing Melanie Humphrey to the Newton Park Board for a term ending December 31, 2027
Resolution 2025-467 adopted.
11. Resolution Re-appointing Kelly Bennett to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission for a term ending December 31, 2028
Resolution 2025-468 adopted.
12. Resolution Re-appointing Rita Reinheimer to serve on the Historic Preservation Commission for a term ending December 31, 2028
Resolution 2025-469 adopted.
13. Resolution Appointing Representatives to the Animal Review Committee
Resolution 2025-470 adopted.
14. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 25-18)
Resolution 2025-471 adopted.
15. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule 25-19)
Resolution 2025-472 adopted.
16. Resolution approving the Clinical Affiliation Agreement with MercyOne Newton Medical Center
Resolution 2025-473 adopted.

17. Resolution Approving a 2 Year Contract with Gilbert Lawn and Snow Removal LLC for the 2026 & 2027 Lawn Care at the City Hall Facility
Resolution 2025-474 adopted.
18. Resolution approving quote for the purchase of equipment, and awarding a Contract for the 2025 W 3rd & 4th St Traffic Signal Install Project
Resolution 2025-475 adopted.
19. 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 2025-01 Iowa Speedway Dr Sidewalk Project
Resolution 2025-476 adopted.

20. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

21. Public Hearing on a Resolution awarding contract for the 1st Ave E and E 12th St Drainage Improvements 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.
22. Resolution awarding contract for the 1st Ave E and E 12th St Drainage Improvements Project
Moved by Mills, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-477 adopted.

Resolution

23. Resolution Awarding a contract for the construction of an open-air shelter for the Westwood Clubhouse Patio
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mills to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-478 adopted.
24. Resolution approving emergency repair expenditure on Jordan Well
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-479 adopted.
25. Resolution consenting to Assignment of Development Agreement
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2025-480 adopted.
26. Resolution approving a 28E Agreement between the City of Newton and Jasper County related to development services in the Newton Rail Park
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution. Moved by Dalton, seconded by Hallam to postpone the Resolution until January or February, to give council more time to work with the county on a final agreement. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The motion to postpone was approved.

Oath Of Office Ceremony

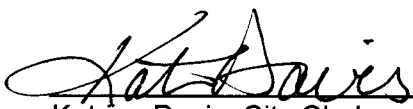
27. Oath of Office Ceremony
The November 4, 2025, elected officials were sworn into office effective January 2, 2026. Randy J. Ervin as Mayor, Meliisa Dalton as Ward 2 Council, Amy Roth as Ward 4 Council, and Jeff Holschuh as At-Large Council.

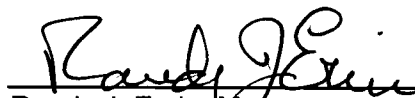
Mayor/Council Comments

28. Mayor and Council Comments
Mayor George encouraged the incoming council to keep the momentum going. Mullan stated it was a privilege to work with the city.

Adjourn

Moved by Mullan, seconded by Hallam to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.


Katrina Davis, City Clerk


Randy J. Ervin, Mayor

