

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 20, 2026, 6:00 PM

Pledge

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ervin 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 4<sup>th</sup> Street South. Mayor Ervin presided. Present Council Members: Mills, Roth, Dalton, Hallam, Simbro, Holschuh. Absent: None.

Proclamation

2. Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Ervin proclaimed April 24th as Arbor Day.

Presentation

3. Rental Inspection Program Report - Bethany Hovda, Newton Permit Technician & Harrison Van Ausdall, Iowa Inspections

The rental inspection program is required by state law. We are on a 5-year contract with Iowa Inspections LLC. The total number of property owners is 267 with 2370 units. The vast majority are single-unit properties. Staff is working to conduct a survey with property owners to get feedback.

Citizen Participation

4. Jerry Chandler, 1011 W 8th St N, spoke

Consent Agenda

Moved by Dalton, seconded by Roth to pull Item 17-Resolution authorizing the purchase of a mini excavator for the Public Works Department from the agenda to get more information. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion to pull Item 17 was approved. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Dalton to approve consent agenda items 3-16 & 18-29. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

5. April 6, 2026 Special City Council Minutes

6. April 6, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

7. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Gezellig Brewing Company, LLC - BW0099095, 403 W 4th St N, Ste 103, Special Class C Retail Alcohol License and Outdoor Service renewal; J&K Investments, LLC (Fore Seasons Golf) at DMACC Newton Campus, 600 N 2nd Ave W, for Special Event on April 22, 2026, Class C Retail Alcohol License; Whiskey Drink, LLC, 124 N 2nd Ave W, Class C Retail Alcohol License pending state and local approval

8. Approve 2026-2027 Cigarette/Tobacco/Nicotine/Vapor License for the following: Dollar General Store #3032, 1803 1st Ave E

9. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 26-07)  
Resolution 2026-133 adopted.

10. Resolution Approving the Contract for the 2026 City of Newton Mowing Contract No. 1  
Resolution 2026-134 adopted.

11. Resolution Approving the Contract for the 2026 City of Newton Mowing Contract No. 2  
Resolution 2026-135 adopted.

12. Resolution Approving the Contract for the 2026 City of Newton Mowing Contract No. 3  
Resolution 2026-136 adopted.

13. Resolution Approving a Property Tax Rebate for the Mercurialis Holdings Property Located at 400 1<sup>st</sup> Ave W Within the North Central Urban Renewal Area  
Resolution 2026-137 adopted.

14. Resolution Approving a Property Tax Rebate for the Jasper Point Plaza, LLC Property Located Within the 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East Urban Renewal Area  
Resolution 2026-138 adopted.

15. Resolution Approving a Property Tax Rebate for the Nehring Auto Property Located at 1800 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E Within the 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East Urban Renewal Area  
Resolution 2026-139 adopted.

16. Resolution approving Water Service Territory within the Newton Rail Park  
Resolution 2026-140 adopted.
17. Resolution authorizing the purchase of a mini excavator for the Public Works Department  
Was pulled by council to review at a later date.
18. Resolution authorizing the purchase of two roll-off containers for the Newton Sanitary  
Landfill  
Resolution 2026-141 adopted.
19. Resolution authorizing the purchase of barricades for community event street closures  
Resolution 2026-142 adopted.
20. Resolution approving an agreement with CivicPlus for asset and work order management  
software  
Resolution 2026-143 adopted.
21. Resolution accepting completion of the 2025 Aurora Park Tennis Courts Lighting Project.  
Resolution 2026-144 adopted.
22. Resolution accepting completion of the Scale House Electrical Generator Installation  
Project  
Resolution 2026-145 adopted.
23. Resolution approving the purchase of a Parks 72-inch Zero-turn Mower  
Resolution 2026-146 adopted.
24. Resolution authorizing the purchase of a 96-inch Parks Zero Turn Mower  
Resolution 2026-147 adopted.
25. Resolution authorizing the purchase of a Parks Dump Truck  
Resolution 2026-148 adopted.
26. Resolution authorizing the purchase of a Downtown Groundskeeper Trailer  
Resolution 2026-149 adopted.
27. Resolution approving contract with Atlantic Bottling Company for Westwood Clubhouse  
Resolution 2026-150 adopted.
28. 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 2026  
Downtown Streetscape Improvements Project  
Resolution 2026-151 adopted.
29. Approve Bills

#### Public Hearing

30. Public Hearing on a Resolution approving the 2026-27 Operating Budget for the City of  
Newton  
Mayor Ervin stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above  
Resolution. There were no written comments. Moved by Holschuh, seconded by Mills to  
close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
31. Resolution Approving the 2026-27 Operating Budget for the City of Newton  
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS:  
None. Resolution 2026-152 adopted.
32. Public Hearing on a Resolution approving the purchase agreement for real property at  
1219 South 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, Newton, Jasper County, Iowa  
Mayor Ervin stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above  
Resolution. There were no written comments. Moved by Dalton, seconded by Roth to  
close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
33. Resolution approving the purchase agreement for real property at 1219 South 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
East, Newton, Jasper County, Iowa  
Moved by Roth, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS:  
None. Resolution 2026-153 adopted.

#### Ordinance

34. Third 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 100-200 Block of East Twenty-  
First Street South  
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Holschuh to approve the third consideration of the  
Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Third Consideration of the Ordinance was  
approved. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Holschuh, to adopt the Ordinance.  
AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Ordinance 2484 was adopted.

35. Second Consideration of an Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, Title XIII: General Offenses, Chapter 130: General Provisions, by Adding a New Section Regarding Public Intoxication  
Moved by Holschuh, seconded by Dalton to approve the second consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Second Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.

Resolution

36. Resolution approving task order 26-01 with Strand Associates, Inc. for Professional Engineering Services related to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Boiler Replacement Project  
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-154 adopted.
37. Resolution approving an amendment to the adopted Low-Moderate Income Set-Aside Funds Policy  
Moved by Holschuh, seconded by Roth to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-155 adopted.
38. Resolution approving the 2026-27 Non-Union Compensation Plan  
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mills to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-156 adopted.

Staff Report

39. Public Works Project Updates - Joe Grife, Public Works Director  
Grife presented many accomplished and planned projects.

Mayor/Council Comments

40. Mayor and Council Comments  
Mills spoke about unique opportunities to meet new people from all over that have come into town for events, such as the Bash Bros Drift cars at the Iowa Speedway. Hallam spoke about the Central Iowa Shelter Services Gala, which was a very good event. The Mayor reminded everyone about the Iowa Speedway Open House on Saturday. He also spoke about the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Workshop, Stronger Boards, Stronger Communities. He encourages everyone to keep an eye on social media to catch all the events coming up this summer.

Adjourn

Moved by Mills, seconded by Simbro to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

  
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Katrina Davis, City Clerk

  
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Randy J. Ervin, Mayor

