



Newton City Council Agenda

July 6, 2026 - 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

Presentation

2. Westwood Golf Course Update — Brad Sponseller, Westwood Operations Manager and Emma Noel, Assistant Clubhouse Manager

Citizen Participation

3. 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

4. June 15, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
5. June 19, 2026 Special City Council Minutes
6. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: NEWTONIA - BW0101197, 4222 S 22nd Ave E, Special Class "C" Retail Alcohol License and Outdoor Service renewal; Newton KOA (Timberline RV Camp, LLC) - 1601 E 36th St S, Class B Retail Alcohol License
7. Approve 2026-2027 Cigarette/Tobacco/Nicotine/Vapor License Renewal for the following: Newton Tobacco & Vape, LLC, 309 Iowa Speedway Dr - Device Permit Renewal
8. Resolution designating the location for posting public meeting notices and agendas pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 21
9. Resolution appointing Lori Miller as Deputy City Clerk
10. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 26-10)
11. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 26-11)
12. Resolution accepting completion of the Children's Forest Bank Stabilization Project

13. Resolution accepting completion of the 2025-01 Iowa Speedway Dr. Sidewalk Project
14. Resolution approving a non-standard use agreement with the business owner of 104 1st St N
15. Resolution to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Iowa DOT for the 1st Ave and E 12th Street Drainage Improvements - Phase II Project
16. Resolution approving change order #1 for the Harmony Park restroom footing and utility install project
17. Resolution approving change order #1 for Demolition Project 2026-01
18. Resolution approving sand purchase for Cell D1/D2 Project at the Newton Sanitary Landfill
19. Resolution authorizing an agreement with Farm Services of Grinnell, IA, to provide DEF tote services for Newton Public Works
20. Resolution approving the Newton Sanitary Landfill Pump Station #1 Leachate Line Repair
21. Resolution amending the submission of a pre-application for Federal Airport Improvement Program funding and certifying eligibility requirements that was previously approved by Resolution 2025-458 and amended by resolution 2026-014
22. Resolution Authorizing Additional Fund Transfers in FY 25/26
23. Resolution Approving a refund to the Federal Aviation Association (FAA) for the Reconstruct Parallel Taxiway at the Newton Municipal Airport
24. Resolution establishing Full City Council as Local Review Selection Committee and establishing the selection criteria for the Procurement of Consultant for Application and Administration of CDBG Grant Funds
25. 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 and 12th Street Drainage Improvements - Phase II Project
26. Approve Bills

Ordinance

27. Third Consideration of an Ordinance amending the City of Newton official zoning map for property located at 1017 West 4th St. S. Parcel number 0833479017, from R-2: One-and-Two Family Residential District to C-N: Neighborhood Commercial
 - The applicant requested a rezoning of the subject property to accommodate expansion of the existing convenience store.
 - At their meeting on May 5, 2026, the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed and unanimously recommended approval of this rezoning application.
28. First Consideration of an Ordinance Granting to Interstate Power and Light Company (Alliant Energy) a 25-Year Non-Exclusive Electric Franchise
 - 270 other cities in the State of Iowa have already adopted franchise fees. These fees are only now necessary in the City of

Newton due to the recent passage of HF 718 and SF 2472 by the Iowa State Legislature, which limit the amount of property taxes the City can collect and use to provide services that Newton residents want in our community.

- When fully implemented in FY29, franchise fees would add \$6 to the average monthly Alliant Energy bill, which is less than the \$16 per month that the average resident will save on their property taxes, due to just the new property tax exemption portion of SF 2472.
- Newton is an extremely lean organization. Any reductions to the City budget will necessarily translate to reductions in services to our residents. Newton has a lot of positive momentum right now, and we need to keep heading in the right direction.
- Franchise fees would allow the City to continue providing the same level of services that we are currently providing in the areas of Police, Fire, Parks & Rec, and the Newton Public Library, and will also allow the City to utilize general funds to purchase some capital equipment, which would reduce City bonding for that equipment.

29. First Consideration of an Ordinance Establishing a Franchise Fee on Energy Providers Operating in the City of Newton, Iowa

- 270 other cities in the State of Iowa have already adopted franchise fees. These fees are only now necessary in the City of Newton due to the recent passage of HF 718 and SF 2472 by the Iowa State Legislature, which limit the amount of property taxes the City can collect and use to provide services that Newton residents want in our community.
- When fully implemented in FY29, franchise fees would add \$1.50 to the average monthly Black Hills Energy bill, which is less than the \$16 per month that the average resident will save on their property taxes, due to just the new property tax exemption portion of SF 2472.
- Newton is an extremely lean organization. Any reductions to the City budget will necessarily translate to reductions in services to our residents. Newton has a lot of positive momentum right now, and we need to keep heading in the right direction.
- Franchise fees would allow the City to continue providing the same level of services that we are currently providing in the areas of Police, Fire, Parks & Rec, and the Newton Public Library, and will also allow the City to utilize general funds to purchase some capital equipment, which would reduce City bonding for that equipment.

30. First Consideration of an Ordinance amending the code of ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2025, Title III, Chapter 30, Section 30.036, "Powers & Duties"; Title III, Chapter 35, Section 35.11, "Change Orders & Contracts"; and Title III, Chapter 35, Section 35.12, "Emergency Purchases"

- The proposed amendments update provisions related to contract execution authority, change orders, and emergency purchases.

- Increasing administrative authority could reduce delays, allow staff to respond more quickly to project needs, and help keep projects moving while remaining within approved budgets and established parameters.

Resolution

31. Resolution Amending the City of Newton Financial Policies, Section 8, Local Purchase Policy and Purchasing Limit Authority and Section 13, Public Purpose Policy
 - Staff has amended the Local Purchase Policy found in Section 8, Subsection 1 to increase the percentage and not to exceed amounts for purchases made within the City of Newton's City limits and added a provision for businesses located within Jasper County.
 - Section 8, Subsection 2 was removed from the Employee Handbook and revises the purchasing authorization limits for Directors and the City Administrator.
 - Section 13, Subsection 2(d), Sustenance Supplies, is being amended to identify specific allowable supplies that align with the City's emergency response operations.

32. Resolution approving the purchase of 3 Bungalow Court, City of Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
 - The City has the opportunity to purchase #3 Bungalow Court as part of on-going curb appeal improvements along 1st Avenue East.
 - A purchase price of \$35,000.00 has been negotiated with the property owner.
 - First Avenue East TIF funds would be used for the acquisition, not impacting bonded funds or general tax funds.

33. Resolution Approving the granting of Downtown Improvement Grant funds for 108 1st Avenue East, Newton, Iowa in the signage program area
 - On June 17, 2026, the Downtown Grant Review Board recommended approval of Downtown Improvement Grant Funds to Vanessa Young for the business Young Cake Shop at 108 1st Ave E.
 - The recommended grant amount is \$245.93, provided a 1:1 match is met.

34. Resolution Approving the granting of Downtown Improvement Grant funds for 110 West 3rd Street South, Newton, Iowa in the signage program area

- On June 17, 2026, the Downtown Grant Review Board recommended approval of Downtown Improvement Grant Funds to Tiffani Finch for the business Sanctify at 110 W 3rd S.
- The recommended grant amount is \$352.56, provided a 1:1 match is met.

35. Resolution expressing support for the AU Solutions Manufacturing facility project and economic development investment

- The proposed facility represents a significant private investment of approximately \$17 million.
- The project is anticipated to create approximately twenty-two (22) new jobs, including positions with at least twelve (12) positions expected to meet qualifying wage requirements of approximately \$29.98 per hour or greater.
- The City Council hereby expresses its support for AU Solutions' planned \$17 million manufacturing facility in Newton.

Staff Report

36. Hydraulic Model Overview — Jody Rhone, Utilities Director

Mayor/Council Comments

37. Mayor and Council Comments

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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