

Amended items:
• Added Resolution #19



Newton City Council Agenda - Amended

September 8, 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

Proclamation

2. 2026 Library Card Sign-Up Month Proclamation

Presentation

3. RSVP Update - Sarah Patterson, RSVP and Grant Program Director, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach
4. NDC Update - Frank Liebl, Executive Director, Newton Development Corporation

Citizen Participation

5. 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

6. August 17, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
7. August 24, 2026 Special City Council Meeting Minutes
8. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Kwik Star #1001 - LG0000900, 1910 1st Ave E, Class B Retail Alcohol License renewal; Pit Stop Liquors - LE0004484, 1324 1st Ave E, Class E Retail Alcohol License renewal
9. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 26-14)
10. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule 26-15)
11. Resolution amending the City of Newton Financial Policy, Section 8, Purchasing Policy, subsection 2(b)
12. Resolution approving Change Order #1 and accepting completion of the construction of an open-air shelter kit for the Westwood clubhouse patio

13. Resolution Approving Transfer of Ownership for 721 East 7th Street North in Accordance with the Executed Purchase and Redevelopment Agreement
14. Resolution accepting completion of the project to deliver sand for the Cell D1/D2 project at the Newton Sanitary Landfill
15. Resolution authorizing the purchase of plow snow blades for snow and ice control
16. Resolution Approving a Property Tax Rebate for the Ex Nihilo Property Located at 107 1st Ave W Within the North Central Urban Renewal Area
17. Resolution amending the funding source for the purchase of barricades for community event street closures
18. 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 W 8th St Traffic Signal Upgrades Project
19. Resolution approving payment to Leibold Irrigation, Inc. for reconnection of irrigation system at Westwood Golf Course following completion of the Westwood Golf Course bridge repairs
20. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

21. Public Hearing on a Resolution Approving the Purchase and Redevelopment Agreement for 827 East 8th Street South, Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
 - The City acquired 827 East 8th Street South through the D&D program.
 - Shane Torres, through his company ACG Properties, LLC (DBA Fundamental GC Services), has offered \$7,000.00 for the property with a commitment to build a new single family home on the property.
 - Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

22. Resolution Approving the Purchase and Redevelopment Agreement for 827 East 8th Street South, Newton, Jasper County, Iowa

Ordinance

23. 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 southeast Newton
 - The expansion of AH Elementary requires adjustments to parking around the school due to new bus and parent pick-up and drop-off routes.
 - The Traffic Safety Committee reviewed the situation and recommended changes to street parking on E 25th St S, S 3rd Ave E and S 5th Ave E.
 - City staff surveyed the 11 residences affected by the proposed parking changes. Responses were received from six residents,

all of whom supported the recommended changes. The remaining five residents did not respond.

Resolution

24. Resolution calling a special election, setting March 2, 2027, as the Special Election Date and adopting ballot language on the proposition of a new electric utility franchise agreement between the City of Newton and Interstate Power and Light Company
 - This resolution calls a special election for Tuesday, March 2, 2027, to allow Newton voters to consider the new 25-year electric utility franchise agreement with Interstate Power and Light Company, as established by Ordinance No. 2489.
25. Resolution calling a special election, setting March 2, 2027, as the special election date and adopting ballot language on the proposition of a franchise fee on energy providers operating in the City of Newton, Iowa
 - This resolution calls a special election for Tuesday, March 2, 2027, to allow Newton voters to consider the franchise fee established by Ordinance No. 2490 for energy providers operating within the City.
26. Resolution Approving Amendments to the Rental Inspection Program Policy
 - The current rental inspection program was established in 2019 and has helped the City accomplish the articulated goal of the comprehensive plan to improve the quality of housing in Newton.
 - From time to time, it is important to review such programs. Some amendments to the policy are suggested to improve the functionality of the program and ensure all parties (property owners, city staff, and inspectors) are on the same page.
 - This resolution approves amended language to the Rental Inspection Program Policy.
27. Resolution approving Utilities Department Compensation Adjustments
 - The Utilities Department is in need of a full-time Administrative Assistant. Restructuring existing personnel by moving a Utility Billing/Clerk into an Administrative Assistant role serving the entire Utilities Department provides an efficient use of existing department resources while addressing the department's administrative needs.
 - The employee's transition represents a significant increase in duties, responsibilities, and departmental support. The expanded role warrants an appropriate adjustment in compensation to reflect the additional responsibilities.
 - The Wastewater Assistant Superintendent successfully completed the IDNR Grade IV Wastewater certification exam.

Consistent with established practice the employee should advance to the next step within the existing pay range.

28. Resolution approving a Newton Hotel-Motel Tourism Grant Program Application for \$2,472.11 for the Newton Arboretum & Botanical Gardens Fall Festival

- City Council established the Newton Hotel-Motel Tourism Grant to provide an avenue to support endeavors which align with the comprehensive plan objective of establishing Newton as a compelling destination.
- The Newton Arboretum & Botanical Gardens has applied for a \$2,472.11 grant to support its fourth annual Fall Festival, scheduled for October 10, 2026, a community event that draws visitors from across Jasper County and surrounding communities.
- The resolution provides for a \$2,472.11 grant to the Newton Arboretum & Botanical Gardens for the Fall Festival.

29. Resolution approving a Newton Hotel-Motel Tourism Grant Program Application for \$2,300 for the Newton Arboretum & Botanical Gardens Scary on the Prairie

- City Council established the Newton Hotel-Motel Tourism Grant to provide an avenue to support endeavors which align with the comprehensive plan objective of establishing Newton as a compelling destination.
- The Newton Arboretum & Botanical Gardens has applied for a grant to support Scary on the Prairie, a new outdoor haunted trail experience scheduled for October 23 and 24, 2026, designed to draw regional visitors to Newton for an evening event.
- The resolution provides for a \$2,300 grant to the Newton Arboretum & Botanical Gardens for Scary on the Prairie, reflecting the program's requirement that the award not exceed total cash expenses.

Staff Report

30. Fire Department Annual Report — Jarrod Wellik, Fire Chief
31. Library Annual Report - Nicole Terry, Library Director

Mayor/Council Comments

32. Mayor and Council Comments

Closed Session

33. 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 2026

Return to Open Session

34. 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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