

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 21, 2023, 6:00 PM

Pledge

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Hansen 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 Hansen presided. Present Council Members: Hallam, Dalton, George, Ervin, Trotter, Wade. Absent: None.

Presentation

3. Newton Community School District Update - Tom Messinger, Superintendent

Messinger provided an update on the NCSD, including information about budgets and how property tax dollars are used. He spoke about enrollment and the discussions on consolidating schools. The school is very involved in the community with Red Pride Service day and the student Ambassador program.

2. Project AWAKE Proposed Expansion

Lana Wohlers, Project AWAKE Board President, presented their proposal to expand the botanical area to the city-owned land north of the Krumm Center. The vision is to help protect the gardens from pesticide and herbicide drift, as well as an opportunity to expand the botanical collections with prairie gardens and native plants; to add additional parking, walkways, amenities, seasonal attractions, additional sculptures, and a green roof pavilion for public use.

Citizen Participation

4. 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

Ron Bookout, 1311 W 4th St S, spoke on transparency. Fred Chabot, 4 Larchwood Court, spoke in support of the Project Awake project.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Dalton, seconded by George to approve consent agenda items 5-14. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

5. August 07, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

6. August 07, 2023 Workshop Minutes

7. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 23-08)
Resolution 2023-224 adopted.

8. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 23-07)
Resolution 2023-225 adopted.

9. Resolution approving a letter of support for Newton Main Street's Challenge Grant application for 118 North 2nd Avenue East
Resolution 2023-226 adopted.

10. Resolution setting a public hearing for the sale of City-owned property at 514 South 3rd Avenue East, City of Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
Resolution 2023-227 adopted.

11. Resolution setting a public hearing for the sale of city-owned property, Parcel A of Lot 3, Block 'B', Guthrie's Subdivision, City of Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
Resolution 2023-228 adopted.

12. Resolution accepting a fiber line easement across 1915 E 5th St S Newton, Iowa
Resolution 2023-229 adopted.

13. Resolution awarding contract for the 2023 Water Service Project
Resolution 2023-230 adopted.

14. Approve Bills

Ordinance

15. Third Consideration of an Ordinance Amending and Updating the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, Title XV: Land Usage, Ch. 158: Zoning
Moved by Trotter, seconded by George to approve the third consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Five. NAYS: Ervin. Third Consideration of the Ordinance was approved. Moved by George, seconded by Trotter, to adopt the Ordinance. AYES: Five. NAYS: Ervin. Ordinance 2435 was adopted.
16. Third Consideration of an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, Title VII, Chapter 70, Section 70.15, Traffic and Parking Schedules Adopted by Reference" to Designate Free Municipal Parking Lots and Remove Parking Restrictions in the 100 Block of East Third Street South
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Wade to approve the third consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Third Consideration of the Ordinance was approved. Moved by Wade, seconded by Dalton, to adopt the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Ordinance 2436 was adopted.

Resolution

17. Resolution Approving the Granting of a Downtown Improvement Grant for 309 1st Avenue West
Moved by Dalton, seconded by George to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-231 adopted.
18. Resolution Approving the Granting of a Downtown Housing Grant for 309 1st Avenue West
Moved by Trotter, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution. Community Development Director, Erin Chambers confirmed the funding is from bonding and requires a 1:1 match. The improvements increase the valuations on the property. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-232 adopted.
19. Resolution approving Public Professional And Maintenance Employees Local 2003 2024-2029 Collective Bargaining Agreement
Moved by Hallam, seconded by George to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-233 adopted.

Staff Report

20. Community Development Update - Erin Chambers, Community Development Director
Chambers hit highlights from 22-23 fiscal year, including the fact that Envision 2042, the City Comprehensive Plan, was adopted in December 2022. The second Homes for Iowa house was completed and sold. A third home is underway. Since 2014 over 100 structures have been demolished through the D&D program. The building permit valuations have grown to \$16,477,146. for 22-23. New construction includes Starbucks, Jimmy Johns, Sned & Wilma's, MCG, and Theisens.

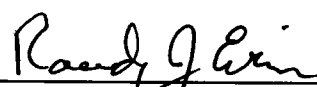
Mayor/Council Comments

21. Mayor and Council Comments
Hallam and Ervin were able to meet with Congress Women Miller-Meeks during the Legacy Plaza visit. Ervin reminded everyone of the home football game on Friday evening. Mayor Hansen presented a letter he received from the DNR about a stellar performance in the operation of the WPC inspection. Hansen indicated that it has been an honor to serve the citizens of Newton over the last 22 years as a council member and as Mayor, but it is time to retire.

Adjourn

Moved by Wade, seconded by Trotter to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.


Katrina Davis, City Clerk


Michael L. Hansen, Mayor Pro Tem
Randy J. Ervin

