

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 5, 2023, 6:00 PM

Pledge

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem 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 4th Street South. Mayor Pro Tem Ervin presided. Present Council Members: Hallam, Dalton, George, Ervin, Trotter, Wade. Absent: None.

Presentation

2. Utility Meter Reading Technology - Dan Ashworth, Municipal Supply

Ashworth presented the proposed automated meter reading transmitters that would be installed onto everyone's meter. This transmitter has a 2-way communication technology. This would automatically transmit readings and alert staff if there was a leak. It will also allow for staff to perform shutoffs and turn on water electronically. Over the next 5 years, 7000 transmitters will be installed throughout the city.

3. United Way of Jasper County Update - Jessica Lowe Vokes, Executive Director

Lowe Vokes, presented on all of the recent activities United Way has been involved in such as various STEM Programs, a school supply drive, they have provided over \$200,000 in grants to over 14 partner organizations. A winter wear program, a women united program, and a speaker series will be starting soon. Jessica wanted to remind everyone of the volunteering opportunities that they have available. All United Way funding stays in Jasper County.

Citizen Participation

4. Joyce Heck, 415 S 8th Ave E, spoke regarding cemetery rules.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Dalton to approve consent agenda items 5-16. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

5. August 21, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

6. August 21, 2023 Workshop Minutes

7. Approve Liquor License for the following: Kwik Star #1001, Premise Street, 1910 1st Ave E, Class B Retail Alcohol License; Okoboji Grill of Newton LLC, 1425 W 19th St S, Class C Retail Alcohol License, Ownership Change, Outdoor Service, Catering, Sunday Sales

8. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 23-08)
Resolution 2023-234 adopted.

9. Resolution removing the Agnes Patterson Park Cropland from the 2024-2026 Growing Season Crop Lease Bidding
Resolution 2023-235 adopted.

10. Resolution authorizing payment to Northway Well Corporation for Jordan Well repair from lightning strike
Resolution 2023-236 adopted.

11. Resolution approving a Professional Services Agreement with Bolton & Menk
Resolution 2023-237 adopted.

12. Resolution approving change order #2 for the WPC Plant Improvements Project
Resolution 2023-238 adopted.

13. Resolution Setting Date for Public Hearing on Urban Renewal Plan Amendment for North Central Urban Renewal Area
Resolution 2023-239 adopted.

14. Resolution approving the purchase of equipment for the Police Department
Resolution 2023-240 adopted.

15. Resolution approving lime sludge removal contract with Jon Taylor
Resolution 2023-241 adopted.

16. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

17. Public Hearing on a Resolution Awarding Contract for the Arbor Estates Second Addition Construction Project
Mayor Pro Tem Ervin stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above

Resolution. There were no written comments. Jennifer Cook, President of NHDC voiced concerns that the dollar amount increase would not get the results wanted. It was proposed to postpone the vote on the resolution in order to provide additional time to review options. Moved by Trotter, seconded by George to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed. Moved by Wade, seconded by Hallam to postpone the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution is postponed.

18. Resolution Awarding Contract for the Arbor Estates Second Addition Construction Project
Moved by Wade, seconded by Hallam to postpone the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution is postponed.
19. Public hearing on a resolution awarding contract for the Aurora Park Pickleball Courts Construction Project
Mayor Pro Tem 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 George to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
20. Resolution awarding contract for the Aurora Park Pickleball Courts Construction Project

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Trotter to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-243 adopted.

21. Public Hearing on a Resolution Awarding Contract for the Maytag Pool Improvements Project
Mayor Pro Tem Ervin stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above Resolution. There were no written comments. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Wade to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
22. Resolution Awarding Contract for the Maytag Pool Improvements Project
Moved by Hallam, seconded by George to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-244 adopted.
23. Public hearing on a resolution rejecting bids for the Westwood Golf Course Clubhouse Project
Mayor Pro Tem Ervin stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above Resolution. There were no written comments. City Administrator Muckler indicated that the bid prices all came in way too high. Proposed rebidding as a different structure, staff doing the teardown, and splitting into phases for the parking lot. Moved by Wade, seconded by Hallam to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
24. Resolution rejecting all bids for the Westwood Golf Course Clubhouse Project
Moved by Dalton, seconded by George to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-245 adopted.
25. Public Hearing on an Ordinance Amending the City of Newton Official Zoning Map for Property Located at 1750, 1770, and 1805 South 8th Avenue East and 600 East 17th Street South from R-2: One and Two-family and R-4: Multi-Family Residential to C-A: Arterial Commercial
Mayor Pro Tem Ervin stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above Ordinance. There were no written comments. Moved by Trotter, seconded by Wade to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
26. First Consideration of an Ordinance Amending the City of Newton Official Zoning Map for Property Located at 1750, 1770, and 1805 South 8th Avenue East and 600 East 17th Street South from R-2: One and Two-family and R-4: Multi-Family Residential to C-A: Arterial Commercial
Moved by Hallam, seconded by George to approve the first consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. first Consideration of the Ordinance was approved. Moved by Hallam, seconded by George to suspend the rules and waive the second and third consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion passed. Moved by Trotter, seconded by Hallam, to adopt the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Ordinance 2437 was adopted.

Ordinance

27. First Consideration of an Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2016, Title XV Land Usage, by Rescinding Chapter 159 Commercial Business/Property Code (No Council Report)
Moved by Trotter, seconded by Hallam to approve the first consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. first Consideration of the Ordinance was approved. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Trotter to suspend the rules and waive the second and third consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion passed. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Wade, to adopt the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Ordinance 2438 was adopted.

Resolution

28. Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Sensus Software (Flexnet) and Equipment for Meter Reading Technology for the Utility Billing and Utilities Department from Municipal Supply Inc

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Wade to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-246 adopted.

29. Resolution Authorizing Purchase of an Itron AMR System and Software from the Van Wert Company for Utility Billing Meter Reading
Moved by Dalton, seconded by George to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-247 adopted.

30. Resolution Authorizing a Utility Meter Reader position in the Administration Department
Moved by George, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-248 adopted.

31. Resolution setting a Public Hearing for the Sale of City-owned property at 1011 and 1015 East 9th Street North, City of Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
Moved by Wade, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. Dalton recused herself. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-249 adopted.

32. Resolution approving Phase 3 of the Engineering Services Agreement for the Maytag Pool Play Features Improvement Project
Moved by George, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2023-250 adopted.

Staff Report

33. License Plate Recognition Camera Project - Rob Burdess, Police Chief
Chief Burdess presented the success of using other cameras in the community to help solve crimes. These cameras would be solar powered and only capture pictures of license plates and the back of a vehicle showing the make and model. They would only be used to assist in solving crimes. Many other cities are using the same technology and if the city were to get 10 cameras, we would be included in a shared database. If something was stolen in Newton, we could tell if that vehicle entered Altoona, Des Moines, or one of the many other shared communities. The cameras are \$3000 a piece per year.
34. Fire Department Annual Report - Jarrod Wellik, Fire Chief
Chief Wellik presented the Fire Department Annual Report.

Discussion

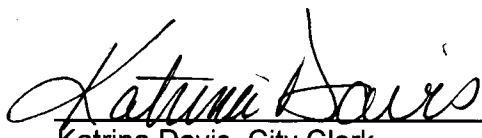
35. Cemetery rules
Community Services Director, Brian Laube, indicated that these are not new rules. The department is enforcing existing rules in order to maintain the cemeteries. Laube will be posting the most abused rules at the cemeteries in order to assist with communicating what can and can't be placed on memorials.

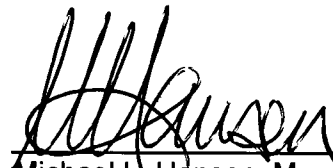
Mayor/Council Comments

36. Mayor and Council Comments
Mayor Pro Tem Ervin reminded everyone about the home football game on Friday night.

Adjourn

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Wade to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 P.M.
AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.


Katrina Davis, City Clerk


Michael L. Hansen, Mayor

