

NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2024, 6:00 PM

Pledge

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor George 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 George presided. Present Council Members: Mills, Wade, Dalton, Hallam, Simbro, Ervin. Absent: None. Mayor George announced that item 29, Mayor and Council Comments would move before item 27, the Closed Session.

Presentation

2. Soccer Mini-Pitch Donation Project for Newton - Nick Cummins, Park Operations Superintendent; Brett Lundberg, Newton Citizen; and the Kick It Forward Organization
The Kick It Forward Organization along with Musco Lighting presented a plan to file for a grant to place a Mini-Pitch soccer field on one of the city basketball courts.

Citizen Participation

3. Jim Bowman, Alliant Energy Economic Development. Senior Business Attraction Manager
Iowa spoke in support of funding for Newton Development Corp.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Wade to approve consent agenda items 4-15. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

4. January 16, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
5. January 16, 2024 Budget Workshop Minutes
6. January 23, 2024 Special City Council Meeting Minutes
7. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: American Legion- LC0018906, 1101 W 4th St S, Class C Retail Alcohol License, Outdoor Service, Catering; Newton Market- LE0004031, 321 1st Avenue West, Class E Retail Alcohol License; NEWTON 66 #963- LG0000322, 1806 S 12TH AVE W, Class B Retail Alcohol License; Legends American Grill-Newton, 1425 W 19th St S, New Class C Retail License, Outdoor Service pending staff approval
8. Resolution appointing Craig Trotter to the Newton Zoning Board of Adjustment for an unexpired term ending on December 31, 2028
Resolution 2024-021 adopted.
9. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 24-01)
Resolution 2024-022 adopted.
10. Resolution approving field use agreement with the Newton Girls Softball Association
Resolution 2024-023 adopted.
11. Resolution approving the purchase of a replacement engine for Public Works Operations
Resolution 2024-024 adopted.
12. Resolution Approving the 2024 Independence Day Fireworks Proposal
Resolution 2024-025 adopted.
13. Resolution approving payment for the installation of new interior doors in the Fire Department
Resolution 2024-026 adopted.
14. 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 6th St S (800-1000 Block) Widening and Resurfacing Project
Resolution 2024-027 adopted.
15. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

16. Public Hearing on a resolution awarding contract for the W 4th St S (200-400 Block) Reconstruction Project
Mayor George 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 Simbro to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.
17. Resolution awarding contract for the W 4th St S (200-400 Block) Reconstruction Project
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Mills to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2024-028 adopted.

Ordinance

18. Second Consideration of an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2016, Title V, Chapter 51, Transported Waste; Waste Haulers and Chapter 52: Sewers and increasing the rates by Five percent each year for Five years, effective July 1 each year 2024-2028
Moved by Simbro, seconded by Dalton to approve the second consideration of the Ordinance.
AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Second Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.

Resolution

19. Resolution to reclassify staff in the Administration Department
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Wade to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None.
Resolution 2024-029 adopted.
20. Resolution approving City of Newton Comprehensive Fee Schedule
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None.
Resolution 2024-030 adopted.
21. Resolution approving the purchase of two used fire command vehicles
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Ervin to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None.
Resolution 2024-031 adopted.
22. Resolution accepting a grant from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None.
Resolution 2024-032 adopted.
23. Resolution approving a low-moderate income housing set-aside grant for 208 East 13th Street North, Newton
Moved by Simbro, seconded by Wade to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None.
Resolution 2024-033 adopted.
24. Resolution approving a low-moderate income housing set-aside grant for 212 East 13th Street North, Newton
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None.
Resolution 2024-034 adopted.
25. Resolution approving the purchase of six new golf cars for Westwood Golf Course
Moved by Ervin, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None.
Resolution 2024-035 adopted.

Staff Report

26. Automated Traffic Enforcement Program - Rob Burdess, Police Chief
Chief Burdess and Rick Willing from the Sensys Gatso Group explained how the program would work and the benefits of implementing the program.

Closed Session

27. To Discuss Strategy with Counsel in Matters that Are Presently in Litigation or Where Litigation is Imminent Where its Disclosure Would be Likely to Prejudice or Disadvantage the Position of the Governmental Body in that Litigation, Which Discussions are Exempt from the Open Meetings Law Pursuant to the Provision of Section 21.5(1)(c), Code of Iowa 2023
At 7:30 P.M., it was moved by Ervin, seconded by Hallam to go into closed session. The city attorney advised the council that they had legal authority to do so. AYES: Six. NAYS: None.
The motion passed.

Return to Open Session

28. Return to Open Session
Council returned to open session at 7:41 P.M. with all members present.

Mayor/Council Comments

29. Mayor and Council Comments
Mayor George announced that the RSVP program is looking for individuals or businesses to sponsor volunteer lunches for those that help prepare the free returns.

Adjourn

Moved by Wade, seconded by Hallam to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.