

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 21, 2008, 5:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The City Council of Newton, Iowa met in regular session at 5:30 P.M. on the above date in the Council Chambers at 101 West 4th Street South. Mayor Allen presided. Present: Council members Plumb, Hansen, Ewing, Foreman, Morris, Mullan. Absent: None.

There was no citizen participation.

Moved by Foreman, seconded by Mullan to approve consent agenda items 2 and 3.

2. Approve April 7, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes and April 11, 2008 Special City Council Meeting Minutes
3. Approve Class C Beer Permit, Sunday Sales, Git-N-Go, 801 First Avenue West

AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent agenda items approved.

Thomas Wardlow, Interim City Administrator reviewed the Capital Fund with City Council Members. Noting the designated projects within the fund, the items that were passed at the last regular city council meeting, the traffic signal project that was on this agenda and a copier for the community development department that would be on the next regular agenda and ended with the total amount available left in the fund. Also on tonight's agenda was a recommendation to use part of these available funds for the salt storage shed.

Moved by Hansen, seconded by Plumb to Introduce a Resolution Ordering Bids, Approving Plans, Specifications And Form Of Contract And Notice To Bidder, And Ordering City Clerk To Publish Notice And Fixing A Date For Receiving Same, And For A Public Hearing On Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract And Estimate Of Costs For The 2008 Traffic Signal Improvements Project. David Stewart, Public Works Director stated the plans and specifications have been prepared for the 2008 Traffic Signal Project. This project includes new traffic signals at 1st Ave and East 14th Street, pedestrian crosswalk signals at 1st Ave. and East 17th Street, and a replacement signal pole that was destroyed at Hwy. 14 and North 4th Ave. West. It was also noted that there had been an insurance settlement of \$19,469 on the signal pole that had been destroyed. Stewart noted some of that settlement had been used for a temporary pole but the residual would be used on this project. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution No. 2008 – 048 adopted.

Moved by Morris, seconded by Ewing to Introduce a Resolution Authorizing The Submission Of Application For IDOT Airport Program Funding And Certifying Eligibility Requirement. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution No. 2008 – 049 adopted.

Moved by Hansen, seconded by Ewing to Introduce a Resolution Authorizing Public Works Director To Seek Bids For A Salt Shed. Ewing asked why this expenditure could not be taken out of the road use tax fund. David Stewart stated at this time we are using all our funds just for operating expenses. Would not recommend it coming out of the road use tax fund. A discussion ensued. It was noted this item would be brought back to city council for approval once the bids were received. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution No. 2008 – 050 adopted.

Moved by Ewing, seconded by Hansen to Introduce a Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Sign And Submit Pre-Application For Apron Expansion Project With Reduced Funding Levels. David Stewart, Public Works Director stated Congress has appropriated only 74% of the funding that had been authorized for this year's aviation program. As such, there are now less federal funds for our apron expansion project currently under design. The FAA has suggested the following options:

1. Reduction in the scope of the project.
2. City of Newton pays the difference.
3. Delay the project until FY 2009.

Option 1 is not recommended as the reduction in size would be too severe and not result in a viable project.

Option 2 is not recommended since project funding would have to come from the General Fund Reserve and this reduction in funding levels would result in an increase in cost to the city from \$16,500 to \$137,039 (an additional \$120,539).

Option 3 is recommended since it is our hope that funding will be restored in the future. The city will need to carry current costs for the design portion of the project already underway (est. \$14,900 from the General Fund) until the project proceeds.

David Stewart went on to note this was a very good project and if you want to choose option 3 and delay the project to a future date in hopes of receiving additional funding, deny the resolution. AYES: None.. NAYS: Six. Resolution failed.

Moved by Foreman, seconded by Hansen to Introduce the Resolution Approving Allocation Of Hotel / Motel Taxes. Foreman stated he was the one that requested this item be placed on the agenda. For the Convention and Visitor's Bureau this is the majority of there revenue. CVB needs to receive more of a percentage. Ewing asked Foreman if CVB were to receive a higher percentage where would that come from. Foreman noted from golf and NDC. Ewing noted he was not in favor of adjusting the percentages. Morris noted a few weeks ago we heard presentations by all three groups. It's not broke so don't fix it. Hansen stated he had been reviewing the spreadsheets on the amount CVB and NDC receive. The CVB should bring us a detailed expenditure sheet and perhaps we could assist possibly by using local option sales and service tax. Moved by Hansen, seconded by Morris to amend the resolution to keep the percentages the same until June 30, 2009. The Mayor asked the clerk for the roll call vote on the amendment. AYES: Three. NAYS: Ewing, Foreman, Plumb. Amendment on the resolution failed. The Mayor asked the clerk for the roll call vote on the original motion. AYES: Two. NAYS: Morris, Mullan, Plumb, Ewing. Resolution failed. The percentages will stay the same.

Under new business several of the council members sited addresses for nuisances to the Interim City Administrator. Thomas Wardlow stated the air conditioning unit in the city hall was not cooling properly, the contractor the city hired found a leak in the main unit that is on the roof, they suggested stop leak and Freon as a first step, but he wanted to prepare the council members in case this fix did not work. Plumb thanked his fellow council members and the citizens for allowing him to attend the municipal leadership academy put on by the Iowa League of Cities.

Moved by Hansen, seconded by Mullan to go into Closed Session To Evaluate The Professional Competency Of An Individual 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 2007. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Mayor Allen called for a five-minute recess to clear the council chambers.

Upon return to open session at 6:44 p.m. a motion was made by Foreman, seconded by Plumb to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Charles Allen, Mayor

Candice Van Zee City Clerk