

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 5, 2009, 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 4<sup>th</sup> Street South. Mayor Allen presided. Present: Council members Plumb, Hansen, Julius, Foreman, Morris, Mullan. Absent: None.

There was no citizen participation.

Frank Liebel, Interim Community Development Corporation Director presented the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter activities at NDC. The following are the highlights of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter:

- Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> NDC hosted the second Salute To Business and Industry Luncheon
- Iowa Connections – counties include Jasper, Poweshiek, Marshall, Tama and Benton – Upcoming issue of “Site Selection story on Alternative energy, and highlighting the new Trinity and TPI facilities in Newton and other in the region
- RIGS plan is complete – known as the DMACC parking lot grant, which was the first in the nation grant from the Dept. of labor
- Fast Trac – New Venture Class: On Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, 11 area entrepreneurs graduated from the most recent class
- Synchronist Survey – Existing Business Initiative – NDC has partnered with Mid-American Energy, Alliant Energy and Black Hills Energy and 6 regional counties to do these surveys or in other words “Business Retention Visits
- Publicity For Newton: In the last quarter Newton received national exposure with stories in the New York Times, on the CBS Evening News, and also on National Public radio. Liebel went on to note upcoming events.

Moved by Morris, seconded by Mullan to approve consent agenda item 3.

3. Approve December 15, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes and Budget Guidelines Workshop, December 18, 2008 Special City Council Meeting Minutes

It was noted on the December 15<sup>th</sup> minutes under old business a correction was needed in the minutes. Foreman made an inquiry about the house on 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the minutes said street. The Clerk noted the correction. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent agenda approved.

Moved by Plumb, seconded by Julius to introduce a Resolution Accepting Work On The 2008 Traffic Signal Improvements Project. Foreman wanted to know what Hy-Vee’s contribution to the project was. David Stewart, Public Works Director stated their contribution was \$48,300. There was also a payment of \$19,469 from the insurance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution No 2009 – 001 adopted.

Moved by Morris, seconded by Mullan to Introduce a Resolution Approving An Amendment To The Employer Incentives Agreement By And Among TPI Iowa, LLC; Jasper County, Iowa; And The City of Newton Within The Amended Jasper County Urban Renewal Area. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution No. 2009 – 002 adopted.

The next item on the agenda was a discussion on spring cleanup. Tom Wardlow, Interim City Administrator noted this item had been brought to Council in August and September. The street department gives up two weeks in the spring to provide this service. Recap where Council would like to go, looking for direction from Council. Several alternatives were presented. It was noted later in the discussion everyone supports the spring cleanup, the issue becomes one of billing. Staff was directed to reinstate spring cleanup and to figure the amount necessary to cover costs and for that cost to be put on the water bills. This item was to be brought back for council consideration in the very near future.

Under new business Foreman inquired about the house located at 728 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Bryan Friedman, Community Development Director noted he had contacted the property owner, he lives out of state, the next step is for a notice to be torn down. Tom Wardlow, Interim City Administrator stated we feel confident the property owner will be taking care of this.

There was no old business.

Moved by Hansen, seconded by Plumb to go into closed session 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 2008. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion passed. Mayor Allen declared a five-minute recess to clear the chambers.

Upon return to open session at 7:09 p.m. Mayor Allen presented the gavel to Mayor Pro-Tem Hansen and Mayor Allen left the council; chambers. Moved by Julius, seconded by Foreman to

go into closed session 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 2008. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion passed. Mayor Pro-Tem Hansen declared a two-minute recess to clear the chambers.

Upon return to open session at 7:56 p.m. it was moved by Morris, seconded by Plumb to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

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Charles Allen, Mayor

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Candice Van Zee, CMC  
City Clerk