

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 01, 2021, 6:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The City Council of Newton, Iowa met in regular session at 6:00 P.M. on the above date via an electronic meeting (pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.8) because a meeting in person is impossible or impractical due to concerns for the health and safety of council members, staff, and the public due to COVID-19. Mayor Hansen presided. Present Council Members: Hallam, Stonner, George, Ervin, Trotter, Mullan. Absent: None.

Mayor Hansen asked everyone present to join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Hansen presented The State of the City Address.

Bryce Heitman and Jonathan Van Hemert with the Economic Vitality Committee as well as Graham Sullivan introduced the idea of a Downtown Splash Pad in the Downtown Area.

During citizen participation Jon Dunwell spoke regarding property valuations. Dunwell asked that the elected official's consider citizen tax costs when balancing the budget.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Mullan to approve consent agenda items 5-19.

5. January 18, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
6. January 18, 2021 Budget Workshop Minutes
7. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Newton 66, Renewal, BC0028230, 1806 S 12th Ave W, Class C Beer Permit (BC), Sunday Sales; Fareway Stores, Renewal, LE0001630, 120 N 3rd Ave E, Class E Liquor License (LE), Class B Wine Permit (Carryout Wine - Includes Native Wine), Class C Beer Permit (Carryout Beer).
8. Resolution appointing Development Specialist Craig Armstrong to serve as Primary Representative And NHDC Director Bruce Showalter as Alternate Representative to the Central Iowa Regional Housing Authority for a Three Year Term ending December 31, 2023. Resolution 2021-021 adopted.
9. Resolution Fixing the Amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule 21-01). Resolution 2021-022 adopted.
10. Resolution accepting completion of the Demolition 2020-03 Project. Resolution 2021-023 adopted.
11. Resolution revising the vendor's name for the purchase of a parks utility vehicle approved earlier by Resolution 2020-160. Resolution 2021-024 adopted.
12. Resolution Setting a Public Hearing on the Proposed Maximum Property Tax Dollars for Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. Resolution 2021-025 adopted.
13. Resolution setting the date for public hearings on proposals to enter into General Obligation Loan Agreements. Resolution 2021-026 adopted.
14. Resolution to fix a date for a public hearing on proposal to enter into a Sewer Revenue Loan Agreement and to borrow money thereunder in a principal amount not to exceed \$5,900,000. Resolution 2021-027 adopted.
15. Resolution setting the date for a public hearing on proposal to enter into a Road Use Tax Revenue Loan Agreement and to borrow money thereunder in a principal amount not to exceed \$2,355,000. Resolution 2021-028 adopted.
16. Resolution approving Engineering Design Services Agreement for the N 4th Ave W & Highway 14 Traffic Signal Project. Resolution 2021-029 adopted.
17. Resolution setting a public hearing and inviting proposals for the sale of property at 921 North 4th Avenue West. Resolution 2021-030 adopted.
18. Resolution approving agreement with Newton Rural Benefited Fire District. Resolution 2021-031 adopted.
19. Approve Bills

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

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on a Resolution accepting purchase and redevelopment proposal for property at 602 East 13th Street North in Newton. There were no written comments. Community Development Director Erin Chambers stated that one bid was received in the amount of \$10,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Henderson with a commitment to rehabilitate the home. Moved by Stonner, seconded by George, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed. Moved by Ervin, seconded by Hallam to adopt the resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-032 adopted.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Mullan, to approve the second consideration of an Ordinance amending the City of Newton Code of Ordinances, Title XV, Chapter 150, Electrical Code for the City of Newton. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Second consideration passed.

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Ervin to adopt a Resolution approving a non-binding Letter of Intent to Blink Charging Company authorizing application for a Volkswagen Settlement Environmental Mitigation Trust Fund grant for installation and operation of Level 2 charging stations in Public Parking Lots. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-033 adopted.

Moved by George, seconded by Stonner to adopt a Resolution authorizing the establishment of an Iowa Reinvestment District for the City of Newton, Iowa. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-034 adopted.

During Mayor/Council comments George thanked the streets crews for assisting some downtown residents during a snow event. She asked for staff to look for resolutions to the downtown parking issues during snow events. Mayor Hansen indicated that he spoke with Erin Yeager at Main Street and they are reviewing with one of their committees. George asked about a back in parking ticket a resident received behind Aleya she asked if we can review that. Ervin indicated that it was an exciting night being able to get together and having people come in with positive ideas. Mayor Hansen addressed Mr. Dunwell's comments; he will be getting concrete information to share. He confirmed that we are in no way near a 21% increase in property taxes for FY22.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Mullan to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Michael L. Hansen, Mayor

Katrina Davis, City Clerk