

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 07, 2022, 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 in the Council Chambers at 101 West 4th Street South. Mayor Hansen presided. Present Council Members: Hallam, Dalton, George, Ervin, Trotter, Wade. Absent: None.

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

Becky Pryor, Jasper County Board of Health Administrator presented the Jasper County Community Health Assessment.

Lucas Hughes, Chief Executive Officer, Newton YMCA, provided the YMCA Annual Update.

During citizen participation, Larry Hurto, 916 S 5th Ave W, spoke regarding the Russian aggression and concern for our Sister City, Smila, Ukraine. Larry asked the Council to consider an ordinance in support of the people of Smila.

Moved by George, seconded by Hallam to approve consent agenda items 5-17.

5. February 21, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
6. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Change in Ownership Hy-Vee Market Café-LC0041009, Hy-Vee Club Room-LC0044764, Hy-Vee Gas-BC0029242, Hy-Vee Food Store #1-LE0000090; Change in Ownership Muse Wine Bar-LC0047886 to Nostalgia Wine & Spirits LLC, 1215 N 67th Ave W; Renew Casey's General Store #2341-LE0003013, 3104 1st Ave E, Class E Liquor, Class B Wine, Class C Beer, Sunday Sales
7. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 22-02). Resolution 2022-051 adopted
8. Resolution approving a storage agreement at Union Cemetery with the American Legion Post 111. Resolution 2022-052 adopted
9. Resolution awarding contract for the Community Services Shop Remodel Project – Electrical Work. Resolution 2022-053 adopted
10. Resolution approving an additional performance agreement for the 2022 Summer Concert Series. Resolution 2022-054 adopted
11. Resolution approving an agreement with Damon Dotson for the 2022 Newton Fest concert on Saturday, June 11, 2022. Resolution 2022-055 adopted
12. Resolution Approving Applications for Exemption in the City-Wide Urban Revitalization Area. Resolution 2022-056 adopted
13. Resolution authorizing Newton Main Street to apply for grants for improvements to the south ½ of the north-south alley way located in the 100 block of North 2nd Avenue West. Resolution 2022-057 adopted
14. Resolution awarding contract for the Sanitary Sewer Manhole Restoration Project 2022-01. Resolution 2022-058 adopted
15. Resolution approving the Newton Sanitary Landfill fee schedule and update operating hours on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Resolution 2022-059 adopted
16. 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 N 4th Ave W Traffic Signal Improvement 2022-01. Resolution 2022-060 adopted
17. 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 adopting the FY23 through FY27 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). There were no written comments. Moved by Trotter, seconded by George, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Dalton to adopt the resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2022-061 adopted.

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on a Resolution Approving the 2022-23 Operating Budget for the City of Newton. There were no written comments. Jon Dunwell with the Iowa House of Representatives District 29, asked about the complexity of property taxes and the rollback. He spoke about transparency and helping the citizens to understand their tax payments that are assessed through the Jasper County Assessor's office. Wade also mentioned the City's transparency page on the website. Moved by Trotter, seconded by Dalton, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed. Moved by Dalton, seconded by Trotter to adopt the resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2022-062 adopted

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public hearing on proposal to enter into an Essential Purpose Loan Agreement. There were no written comments. Moved by George, seconded by Trotter, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public hearing on proposal to enter into a General Purpose Loan Agreement #1. There were no written comments. Moved by Ervin, seconded by Hallam, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public hearing on proposal to enter into a General Purpose Loan Agreement #2. There were no written comments. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Trotter, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on a Public hearing on proposal to enter into a General Purpose Loan Agreement #3. There were no written comments. Moved by Wade, seconded by George, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution taking additional action on proposal to enter into General Obligation Loan Agreements, combining Loan Agreements and authorizing the use of a Preliminary Official Statement in connection therewith. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2022-062 adopted.

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on an Ordinance amending and updating the code of ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, Title XV: Land Usage, Chapter 155: Site Plan Control and Chapter 158: Zoning, to amend residential development standards and increase transparency in administrative procedures. There were no written comments. Moved by Wade, seconded by Hallam, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed. Moved by Trotter, seconded by Ervin to approve the First Consideration of the above Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. First Consideration passed.

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution approving a Telecommunications Licensing Agreement with Mahaska Communication Group – Phase 1. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2022-064 adopted.

Moved by Dalton, seconded by George to adopt the Resolution of Support for New Des Moines International Airport Terminal Project. Council discussion ensued regarding pros of keeping the funding within the community and the pros of supporting the Greater Des Moines Area in which we would like to increase our partnerships with. AYES: Four. NAYS: Trotter, Wade. Resolution 2022-065 adopted.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Dalton to adopt the Resolution approving the 2022 Independence Day Fireworks Proposal. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2022-066 adopted.

Moved by Dalton, seconded by George to adopt the Resolution Approving a Funding Request of \$10,000 to the 2022 PGI Convention. Ron Dlouhy, a representative from the PGI committee spoke regarding using the funds for the inspection of the concert stage and preparing the entertainment area. AYES: Three (Hallam, Ervin, Wade recused themselves due to participation on the committee). NAYS: None. Resolution 2022-067 adopted.

Community Services Director Brian Laube, presented the 2021 Recap of Parks, Pool, Westwood Golf Course, and Cemeteries. The pool will open from May 26 to Aug. 29; staff can see a potential struggle to find lifeguards due to competing facilities. Westwood saw 22,209 rounds of golf, the highest in 12 years.

Fire Chief Jarrod Wellik and City Planner Brian Dunkelberger presented on the Rental and Commercial Inspection Programs. Staff will be providing owners with pre-inspection information in order to help them to be better equipped before the inspection. The goal is to have 70-80% pass on the 1st visit.

During Mayor/Council comments Mayor Hansen and Fire Chief Wellik spoke regarding some Warning Sirens during the March 5, 2022 storm. The Jasper County Dispatch is tasked with activating the sirens during testing and real weather events. JCSO believes that due to a communications system upgrade and new radio consoles being installed, that the sirens that did not activate in Newton needed to be reprogrammed. The City of Newton, being responsible for maintenance and repair of the outdoor sirens, sent over the corrected program information to the Jasper County Sheriff's office on Friday, March 4. Unfortunately, the severe weather on Saturday, March 5 occurred prior to when the vendor who conducts the programming could fix the issue and therefore some sirens, did not activate for the severe weather on Saturday, March 5. A test was conducted of the outdoor sirens at 1 p.m. on Monday, March 7 after the vendor corrected the issue. We can confirm that all sirens in Newton were activated and worked during this test. The JCSO does want to remind everyone that outdoor storm sirens are meant to alert people outside, and encourage residents of Newton and Jasper County to register for the Alert Iowa/RAVE alerts at <http://bit.ly/JasperAlerts>, and to pay attention to National Weather Service alerts, whether through the Weather Emergency Alert (WEA) system or through a NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) network.

Mayor Hansen attended a function at the Ron Pearson Center for a Charity; the entertainment lineup for the Indy Car weekend was announced: Tim McGraw, Florida Georgia Line, Gwen Stefani, and Blake Shelton. Council is excited about all of the events going on this summer such as Bowlful of Blues, July 4th activities, PGI, Wild Country Fest, etc. Dalton announced that her and Wade were able to tour the Newton Airport and were impressed with the facility and professionalism.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by George to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Michael L. Hansen, Mayor

Katrina Davis, City Clerk