

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 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 in the Council Chambers at 101 West 4th Street South and 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.

Jim Sparks, Jasper County Coordinator, Jasper County Emergency Management, provided an update from the Jasper County EOC and a recap on the Derecho.

There was no citizen participation.

Moved by Stonner, seconded by George to approve consent agenda items 4-10.

4. February 15, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
5. Resolution Fixing the Amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 21-02). Resolution 2021-044 adopted.
6. Resolution Setting a Public Hearing Date to Approve the 2021-22 Operating Budget for the City of Newton. Resolution 2021-045 adopted.
7. Resolution Approving Applications for Exemption in the City-Wide Urban Revitalization Area. Resolution 2021-046 adopted.
8. Resolution awarding contract for the Demolition 2021-01 Project. Resolution 2021-047 adopted.
9. Resolution Approving Pump Repair of the Ladder Truck. Resolution 2021-048 adopted.
10. 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 to enter into General Obligation Loan Agreement #1 and to borrow money thereunder in a principal amount not to exceed \$700,000. There were no written comments. Moved by Mullan, 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 Resolution to enter into General Obligation Loan Agreement #2 and to borrow money thereunder in a principal amount not to exceed \$550,000. There were no written comments. Moved by George, 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 a Resolution to enter into an Essential Purpose Loan Agreement in a principal amount not to exceed \$2,400,000. There were no written comments. Moved by Ervin, seconded by Trotter, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Ervin to adopt a 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 2021-049 adopted.

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on a Resolution taking additional action on proposal to enter into a Sewer Revenue Loan Agreement and authorizing the use of a preliminary official statement in connection therewith. There were no written comments. Moved by Hallam, seconded by George, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Trotter to adopt a Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-050 adopted.

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on a Resolution taking additional action on proposal to enter into a Road Use Tax Revenue Loan Agreement and authorizing the use of a preliminary official statement in connection therewith. There were no written comments. Moved by Stonner, seconded by Ervin, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed. Moved by Mullan, seconded by George to adopt a Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-051 adopted.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Hallam, to approve the second consideration of an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2016, Title VII, Chapter 70, Section 70.15, "Traffic and Parking Schedules Adopted by Reference", to make changes to street parking in the 200 block of West Ninth Street North. AYES: Four. NAYS: George, Ervin. Second consideration passed.

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Trotter, to approve the second consideration of an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2016, Title VII, Chapter 70, Section 70.15, "Traffic and Parking Schedules Adopted by Reference", to make changes to street parking in the 400-500 block of West Tenth Street North and the 900 block of North Fifth Ave West. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Second consideration passed.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by George, to approve the second consideration of an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2016, Title VII, Chapter 70, Section 70.15, "Traffic and Parking Offenses Adopted by Code Reference" by adding a "No Right Turn on Red" designation on the south quadrant of the East Twelfth Street and First Avenue intersection. AYES: Five. NAYS: Ervin. Second consideration passed.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Stonner, to approve the first consideration of an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2016, Title IX, Chapter 94: Public Nuisances, Revisions and/or additions related to outside parking and storage of vehicles and trailers on residential property. Council discussion ensued regarding regulating property in this manner. AYES: Four. NAYS: Hallam, Ervin. First consideration passed.

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Stonner to adopt a Resolution approving the pass-through grant agreement between the City of Newton and Jasper County for the purpose of applying for a Historic Resource Development Program Grant. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-052 adopted.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Ervin to adopt a Resolution approving the granting of Downtown Improvement Grant Funds for 107 1st Avenue West. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-053 adopted.

Moved by Stonner, seconded by George to adopt a Resolution authorizing the submittal of the USDOT Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Assurances document and Iowa DOT Title VI Non-Discrimination Agreement. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-054 adopted.

Moved by George, seconded by Trotter to adopt a Resolution approving updates to the City Mission and Value Statements. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-055 adopted.

Brian Laube, Community Services Director, lead a discussion regarding the proposed downtown splash pad project at 224 W 3rd St N. Costs are still being reviewed with the different options. Additional details still need to be determined. Additional information will be provided to the Council.

Rob Burdess, Police Chief, provided a 2020 Police Department Recap. There was a 2.28% decrease in calls for service and a 25% increase in traffic stops. Property crimes decreased. Incidents reported decreased by 6% and Violent Property Crime decreased by 34%. Public/Society Crimes increased by 2%. 2021 projects were introduced including animal control initiatives, strategic plan, and a community engagement officer.

During Mayor/Council comments Hallam announced that he was reminded by HPC Chair Larry Hurto that Newton was founded 175 years ago this summer. He congratulated the HPC Commissioners and Erin Chambers, Community Development Director, on getting the two new Historic Districts created. Mullan reminded everyone to go vote on the County Bond. Hansen updated council on the status of the Urban Renewal proposal to the County for Westwood Golf Course. The County Supervisors did not approve the URA due to their belief that this question should be a ballot decision. Mayor Hansen disagrees due to the governance differences in the city and the county as well as the difference in funding they were asking for. He will be pursuing other measures. Mayor Hansen also thanked all of the Fire/EMS for recognizing all of the Council for their continued support for their department.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Hallam to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Michael L. Hansen, Mayor

Katrina Davis, City Clerk