

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 19, 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

Frank Liebl, Executive Director, Newton Development Corporation presented to the council an update on economic development in Newton. He spoke about the Phoenix Investors Campus, Meisner Center, and Legacy Plaza. He emphasized the importance of Community Tours for interested developers. Tanya Michener, Associate Director, Newton Development Corporation spoke about the job fair and co-working space at Legacy Plaza. She also spoke about the three aspects of economic growth. She asked if anyone would like to see anything added to the Newton Development Corporation monthly report. Mayor Hansen commented he thought the monthly report was a good summary overall.

There was no citizen participation.

Moved by Hallam, seconded by Stonner to approve consent agenda items 4-13.

4. July 6, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
5. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Dollar General #3032, Premise Transfer, Pending Certificate of Occupancy and Fire Inspection, BC0029879, 1803 1st Ave E, Class C Beer Permit, Sunday Sales; Hy-Vee Club Room, Renewal, LC0044764, 1501 1st Ave E, Class C Liquor License, Outdoor Sales, Sunday Sales, Catering; Raceway 80, (former Valero), New-1 year, TBD, 4300 S 22nd Ave E, Class E Liquor License, Class B Wine Permit, Class B Native Wine Permit, Class C Beer Permit, Sunday Sales; Walmart #748, Renewal, LE0000974, 300 Iowa Speedway Dr, Class E Liquor License, Class B Wine Permit, Class C Beer Permit, Sunday Sales; Hy-Vee Club, 5-day, TBD, Steele Wedding at Alta House-1600 E 36th St S, Effective 9/4/21, Class C Liquor License.
6. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 21-05). Resolution 2021-190 adopted.
7. Resolution accepting completion of the City of Newton 2021 Fence Repairs Project. Resolution 2021-191 adopted.
8. Resolution ordering bids, approving plans, specifications and form of contract and notice to bidders, and ordering 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 HMA Resurfacing Project 2021. Resolution 2021-192 adopted.
9. Resolution Setting Date for Public Hearing on Urban Renewal Plan Amendment for the Southwest Economic Development Area. Resolution 2021-193 adopted.
10. Resolution Setting Date for Public Hearing on Urban Renewal Plan Amendment for the East-Mart Economic Development Area. Resolution 2021-194 adopted.
11. Resolution setting a date of meeting at which it is proposed to approve a development agreement with CRH Properties LLC, including annual appropriation tax increment payments. Resolution 2021-195 adopted.
12. Resolution setting a date of meeting at which it is proposed to approve a development agreement with Cindy Rogers-Sell, including annual appropriation tax increment payments. Resolution 2021-196 adopted.
13. 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 501 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue West, 517 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue West, and 521 South 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue West in Newton, Iowa. There were no written comments. During Council discussion George stated it is very exciting to see homes being built in an affordable price range. Moved by Trotter, seconded by Mullan, to close the public hearing. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed. Moved by Ervin, seconded by George to adopt the resolutions. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-197 adopted.

Mayor Hansen stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on a Resolution approving development agreement with Best Midwest Properties, L.L.C., authorizing annual appropriation tax increment payments and pledging certain tax increment revenues to the payment of the agreement. 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. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mullan to adopt the resolutions. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-198 adopted.

Moved by George, seconded by Mullan to approve a Resolution of support of a Workforce Housing Tax Credit Program application by Catalyst Development Newton, LLC for market rate housing at Legacy Plaza Complex in Newton, Iowa. Kim Didier, Executive Director DMACC, spoke about the project and invited Angela Harrington, Catalyst President/CEO, to speak via zoom. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2021-199 adopted.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by Stonner to approve a Resolution to Include the Newton Public Library Foundation and the Newton Friends of the Library as Discretely Presented Component Units in the FY21 Audit and All Future Audits. Terry Townsend, member of Newton Library Foundation, Tom Hollander, former Library Board Member, and Rita Baker, Library Board Member, spoke in opposition. Moved by Ervin, seconded by Hallam to table the resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution Tabled.

Moved by George, seconded by Hallam Approving a Motion for the Annual Budget Target in FY23 for the Newton Public Library of \$669,306 for General Fund Expenditures, not Including Donations, and Encouraging the Library Board of Trustees to Continue Implementing more Sustainable Budget Practices Moving Forward. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Motion approved.

Erin Chambers, Director, Community Development, gave an update on the Community Development department. She introduced the department members and pointed out each department member's responsibilities.

During Mayor/Council comments Mark Hallam encouraged those who have not signed up for Jasper County 911 and City of Newton updates to do so. Dean Stonner stated that it is a relief to be able to meet face-to-face again. Steve Mullan asked what is the percentage of citizens in Jasper County have had the COVID-19 vaccination. Jarrod Wellik, Fire Chief, stated the percentage of residents in Jasper County vaccinated is between 45%-46%. Randy Ervin stated that PGI has accepted the City of Newton's proposal to host the Pyrotechnics Guild International Convention in 2022.

Moved by Trotter, seconded by George to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

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Michael L. Hansen, Mayor

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Shawnda Abbas, Deputy City Clerk