

# OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

April 4, 2017 6:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mark Bolander, Mayor  
**Mayor Mark Bolander called the meeting to order.**
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Alderman Eric Blake  
**Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Alderman Eric Blake.**
3. ROLL CALL: Rosetta York, City Clerk  
**Physically present: Steve Rubsam, David Brown, Larry Brooks, Robert Reisner, Eric Blake, Scott Bloomberg**  
**Absent: None**  
**Also present: Attorney Max Tedford, Treasurer Melissa Brooks, Clerk Rosetta York**
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA: amend agenda Finance 5:30 PM 4-6-17  
**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Rubsam, to adopt the amended agenda.**  
**Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake and Bloomberg**  
**Nays: None**
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of March 21, 2017  
**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Brown, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Newton City Council March 21, 2017.**  
**Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Bloomberg and Rubsam**  
**Nays: None**
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: **None**
7. OLD BUSINESS: **None**
8. NEW BUSINESS:
  - A. Consider and act on Ordinance 17-03 Amend the Newton City Code to Add Article XV – Cannabis to Chapter 27.  
**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Brown, to pass Ordinance 17-03 Amend the Newton City Code to Add Article XV – Cannabis to Chapter 27.**  
**Ayes: Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Bloomberg, Rubsam and Brown**  
**Nays: None**
9. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

**Rubsam:** There was a joint meeting with the Finance and Water Committees March 22. Paul Thom, HD Supply Representative spoke on a GPS/GIS mapping system for the water department via video conference. Treasurer Brooks presented three material sale bills deemed uncollectable from 2012 – 2014. Acting on the advice from Kemper CPA Group, the committee agreed to write off the bills.

**Bloomberg:** JEDI met today, April 4. Representatives from the Southeastern Illinois Community Foundation, Amanda Lessley, Karla Koebele, and Mitch Bierman, gave an informative presentation on the foundation's activities. The members of JEDI discussed a community marketing program, a search for an office assistant, the Enterprise Zone and TIF. Monthly updates were given by Ken Larimore, CED Extension Educator; Mark Bolander, Mayor of Newton; Ron Heltsley, Jasper Co. Board Chairman; and Andy Johnson, Superintendent of Schools.
10. STATEMENTS:

Council Members,

**Rubsam:** Discussed the "Inspire Wellness Program" the City could offer the employees. A consensus was given to gather information on this to discuss later.

**Brown:** The Park Dept. is spring cleaning Eagle Trail walking path north of river, they are working with Electric Dept. on the big pavilion this summer and have done some patching.

**Brooks:** Glad to be back.

**Reisner:** Street Dept. is cleaning ditches. Plus they are doing a great work. Wastewater has a sinkhole and are still investigating the cause. Called Street Committee on April 17 at 6:15

**Blake:** Presented Animal Control Report from the county.

**Bloomberg:** Called a Police Committee on April 17 at 5:30 to discuss Personnel.

**City Attorney:** None

**City Treasurer:** None

**City Clerk:** None

**Mayor:**

1. Ask Larry Brooks, Personnel Committee Chairman, to call a meeting after May 1.
2. Please gather the goals for their department and the city.
3. Ask if anyone is interested in becoming a life skills mentor with "Push Ahead."
4. Image Square Marketing has several commitments to the proposed agreement and is waiting on a couple of groups.
5. Travis Hall from the Secretary of State wants the city to have Fake ID training for all liquor licenses at no cost.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: April 18, 2017 at 6:00 PM

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: None

**The next regular meeting of the Newton City Council will be April 18, 2017 at 6:00 PM.**

**Finance Committee Meeting 5:30 PM 4-6-17**

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Litigation, potential litigation, sale of real estate and personnel

**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Rubsam, to go out of open session and into closed session to discuss litigation, potential litigation, sale of real estate and personnel pursuant to the exceptions section of the Open Meetings Act pertaining to those areas of discussion.**

**Ayes:** Reisner, Blake, Bloomberg, Rubsam, Brown and Brooks

**Nays:** None

**Open session suspended at 6:45 PM.**

**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Rubsam, to go out of closed session and back into open session.**

**Ayes:** Blake, Bloomberg, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks and Reisner

**Nays:** None

**Open session resumed at 7:12 PM.**

Mayor Bolander announced that during closed session the council discussed litigation, potential litigation, sale of real estate and personnel.

13. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Rubsam, to adjourn the meeting.**

**Ayes:** Bloomberg, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Reisner and Blake

**Nays:** None

**Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.**

**Submitted by Rosetta York**

