

5:45 PM - A Project Performance Hearing for the completed CDAP Rehabilitation grant was held at 5:45 PM prior to the Newton City Council meeting March 7, 2017.

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
March 7, 2017

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mark Bolander, Mayor
Mayor Mark Bolander called the meeting to order.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** led by Alderman Robert Reisner
Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Alderman Robert Reisner.
3. **ROLL CALL:** Rosetta York, City Clerk
Physically present: Steve Rubsam, David Brown, Robert Reisner
Absent: Larry Brooks, Scott Bloomberg, Eric Blake
Also present: Attorney Max Tedford, Treasurer Melissa Brooks, Clerk Rosetta York
4. **ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA**
Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Rubsam, to adopt the amended (add a Finance Committee meeting, March 14, 2017; add Tony Trimble, Johnny Newkirk and Randy Kistner under Public Comments) agenda.
Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Reisner, Bolander
Nays: None
5. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES** of February 21, 2017 meeting
Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Reisner, to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2017 Newton City Council meeting.
Ayes: Brown, Reisner, Bolander, Rubsam
Nays: None
6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS:**
Tony Trimble addressed the council concerning a 700 square foot educational tool, a pollinator wildflower habitat, to be located on the Farm Bureau property. This project would be part of the Ag in the Classroom project led by Lindsey Voyt. Height of the wildflowers was discussed. The seed will be provided by Grow Mart.
Johnny Newkirk addressed the council concerning a water leak and leak adjustment.
Randy Kistner addressed the council for permission to park in the lot south of the hotel. At this time, trucks may park there at no cost, at their own risk. Future plans for the lot will be discussed by the council at a later date.
7. **OLD BUSINESS: None**
8. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. Consider and act on retirement of Joe Stoops.
Motion was made by Reisner seconded by Brown, to accept the retirement resignation submitted by Joe Stoops.
Ayes: Reisner, Bolander, Rubsam, Brown
Nays: None
 - B. Consider and act on advertising for new Street Department employee.
Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Rubsam, to advertise for a new Street Department employee. Applications from current employees must be received by March 14. If no currently employee is qualified, applications from non-city employees must be received by March 31.
Ayes: Bolander, Rubsam, Brown, Reisner
Nays: None
 - C. Consider and act on Special Event Application for NCHS Yearbook "Zombie Chase Run/Walk" on April 15, 2017.
Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brown, to approve the Special Event Application for NCHS Yearbook "Zombie Chase Run/Walk" on April 15, 2017.
Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Reisner, Bolander

Mayor Bolander recognized Joe Stoops for his 22 years of dedicated service to the City in the Street Department. A retirement certificate and gift certificate were presented to him on behalf of the City.

Nays: None

- D. Consider and act on the agreement between Illinois Commerce Commission and the City of Newton for the repair of the RR crossing on S. Walnut St.

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Rubsam, to approve the agreement between Illinois Commerce Commission and the City of Newton for the repair of the railroad crossing on South Walnut St.

Ayes: Brown, Reisner, Bolander, Rubsam

Nays: None

- E. Consider and act on Ordinance 17-01 Amend Section III-Four-Way Stop Intersections of Schedule "C" to Code Section 24-3-3 of the Newton City Code of Ordinance.

Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Rubsam, to pass Ordinance 17-01 Amend Section III-Four-Way Stop Intersections of Schedule "C" to Code Section 24-3-3 of the Newton City Code of Ordinance.

Ayes: Reisner, Bolander, Rubsam

Nays: Brown

Motion did not pass.

- F. Consider and act on Resolution 17-03 Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code in the amount of \$65,000.00

- G. **Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brown, to pass Resolution 17-03 Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code in the amount of \$65,000.00.**

Ayes: Bolander, Rubsam, Brown, Reisner

Nays: None

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Bloomberg - JEDI met March 7, 2017. A roundtable discussion was held on community marketing and the search for a part-time assistant for the Economic Development Coordinator. Monthly updates were given by Ken Larimore, CED Extension Educator; Mark Bolander, Mayor of Newton; Ron Heltsley, Jasper County Board Chairman; and Andy Johnson, Superintendent of Schools. An administrative fee of 1% for TIF applications will be paid to JEDI. An administrative fee of one-half of a percent for the cost of building materials (not to exceed \$50,000) in the Enterprise Zone will be charged, paid to JEDI. The attendees were asked for their comments on items discussed.

10. STATEMENTS:

Brown – Thanks to Joe Stoops for his service to the City. There will be a Parks Committee meeting scheduled soon.

Reisner – Thanks again to Joe Stoops. Josh Ochs is the acting department head for the Street Department.

Rubsam – Also, thanks to Joe Stoops. Rubsam gave the monthly animal control report.

Mayor Bolander – Superintendent Johnson gave a preview of the motivational speaker Aaron Thomas who will be speaking at NCHS March 13 at 6:30 PM. It will be a very good program.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: March 21, 2017 at 6:00 PM

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Police Committee Meeting 3-8-17 at 5:30 PM and Dues and Donations Committee 3-8-17 at 6:15 PM

The next regular meeting of the Newton City Council will be March 21, 2017 At 6:00 PM.

Scheduled committee meetings – Police Committee 3-8-17 at 5:30, Dues and Donations 3-8-17 at 6:15 PM, Finance 3-14-17 at 5:30.

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

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

Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Reisner, Bolander

Nays: None

Open session suspended at 7:03 PM.

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

Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Reisner and Bolander

Nays: None

Open session resumed at 7:34 PM.

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

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Reisner, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Brown, Reisner, Bolander and Rubsam

Nays:

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Submitted by Rosetta York

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rosetta York', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.