

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL**

**May 2, 2017 at 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 David Brown  
**Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Alderman David Brown.**
3. ROLL CALL: Rosetta York, City Clerk  
**Physically present: David Brown, Larry Brooks, Robert Reisner, Eric Blake, Scott Bloomberg**  
**Absent: Steve Rubsam**  
**Also present: Attorney Max Tedford, Treasurer Melissa Brooks, Clerk Rosetta York**
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA: Revised Goals for packet, omit consider and act on in #8A, delete 8F and add Finance Committee meeting 5-9-17 at 5:30 PM  
**Motion was made by Bloomberg seconded by Blake, to adopt the amended agenda.**  
**Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake and Bloomberg**  
**Nays: None**
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of April 18, 2017 meeting  
**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Brooks, to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2017 regular meeting of the Newton City Council.**  
**Ayes: Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Bloomberg and Brown**  
**Nays: None**
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: None
7. OLD BUSINESS:
  - A. Consider and act on Fiscal Year Goals 2017-18.  
**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Reisner, to adopt Fiscal Year Goals 2017-2018.**  
**Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Bloomberg, Brown and Brooks**  
**Nays: None**
  - B. Consider and act on Ordinance 17-04 to Amend Section 9-1-1 of Chapter 9 (fees for grave openings).  
**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Brown, to pass Ordinance 17-04 to Amend Section 9-1-1 of Chapter 9 (fees for grave openings).**  
**Ayes: Blake, Bloomberg, Brown, Brooks and Reisner**  
**Nays: None**
  - C. Consider and act on Special Event Permit application for Newton High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes 5K Glow walk/run.  
**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Brooks, to approve the Special Event Permit for Newton High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes 5K Glow walk/run.**  
**Ayes: Bloomberg, Brown, Brooks, Reisner and Blake**  
**Nays: None**
  - D. Consider and act on Special Event Permit application Jasper County Chamber of Commerce Strawberry Festival, June 2-3, 2017.  
**Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Bloomberg, to approve the Special Event Permit for the Jasper County Chamber of Commerce Strawberry Festival, June 2-3, 2017.**  
**Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake and Bloomberg**  
**Nays: None**
8. NEW BUSINESS:
  - A. Swearing in of newly elected officials: Mark Bolander, Rosie York, Steve Rubsam, Robert Reisner, Eric Blake, Scott Bloomberg, Ken Albrecht, Maxine Calvert, Ed Webb and Dave Dow.
  - **Alderman Bloomberg administered the Oath of Office to newly elected City Clerk, Rosetta M. York.**

- **City Clerk York administered the Oath of Office to newly elected**
  - **Mayor, Mark Bolander**
  - **Aldermen, Scott Bloomberg Ward #1, Eric Blake Ward #2 and Robert Reisner Ward #3**
  - **Zoning Board of Appeals Members, Kenneth Albrecht, Maxine Calvert and Dave Dow**

B. Consider and act on Taser recertification training for Newton Police Department, on May 11, 2017 with fee of \$225.00 plus allowable expenses.

**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Blake, to authorize Taser recertification training for the Newton Police Department on May 11, 2017 with the fee of \$225.00 plus allowable expenses.**

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

**Nays: None**

C. Consider and act on making Alec Westrich a full time Police Officer.

**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Reisner, to authorize hiring Alec Westrich as a full-time police officer effective on completion of training.**

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

**Nays: None**

D. Consider and act on promotion of Officer Greg Coker to Corporal.

**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Brown, to authorize the promotion of Officer Greg Coker to Corporal effective May 2, 2017.**

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

**Nays: None**

E. Consider and act on accepting Gina Fox's resignation from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

**Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Brooks, to accept Gina Fox's resignation from the Zoning Board of Appeals effective April 25, 2017.**

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

**Nays: None**

#### 9. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Bloomberg - JEDI met May 2, 2017 to discuss the community marketing program, the search for an assistant and monthly updates from Extension Educator Ken Larimore, Mayor Mark Bolander, Jasper Co. Board Chairman Ron Heltsley, School Superintendent Andy Johnson and Jasper County Chamber. Craig Nielson from the Effingham Regional Growth Alliance spoke about a computer coding project that would be an opportunity for the region.

#### 10. STATEMENTS:

Council Members:

**Brown:** Congratulation to the newly elected officials. I attended the Annual Jasper County CEO Trade Show for the first time. The CEO students and their work were very impressive. Alderman Reisner and I observed the retention pond at Dufrain Park during the recent rains, it is working as it was designed.

**Brooks:** Congratulation to the newly elected officials. I also attended CEO Trade Show, in spite of the power outage. Water Department reported wells #5 and #6 are down.

**Reisner:** Brent Benefiel is a certified wastewater tech, congrats to him. Derick will start May 8, 2017. Five Aprils Crossing has storm water issues which Connor & Connor will check. Street Department is working on GSI ditch.

**Blake:** Gave the Jasper County Animal Report.

**Bloomberg:** One of the Police squad cars transmission went out, got it fixed. Officer Britton will be attending K-9 trails. Image Square Marking reported "People Reach" with

Facebook posts were: Cork and Pork – 844, Jasper County CEO Annual Trade Show – 904, Jasper County Waste Management- 754, Community Garden- 220 and Beta Club Puppy Pageant – 546. Send items to be posted to, [ExperienceJasperCounty@gmail.com](mailto:ExperienceJasperCounty@gmail.com). Congratulations to CEO student, Victor Sandschafer, for being selected as the “Entrepreneur of the Year.”

City Attorney: None

City Treasurer: None

City Clerk: Congratulation to the newly elected officials.

Mayor:

- Thank you to Alderman Bloomberg for purchasing 20 trees from Victor Sandschafer and donated them to the City’s Parks, Peterson and Dufrain.
- James Patrick from South Central Illinois Regional Planning Development Commission is having a “Reverse Funding Fair.”

**11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

**May 16, 2017 at 6:00 PM**

**SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2017 at 5:30 PM.**

**Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2017 at 5:30 PM**

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

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

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

**Nays: None**

Open session suspended at **6:40 PM.**

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

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

**Nays: None**

Open session resumed at **6:59 PM.**

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

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

**Nays: None**

Meeting adjourned at **7:12 PM.**

Submitted by Rosetta York

