

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
December 19, 2017

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
Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Rubsam, to adopt the proposed agenda.
Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Bloomberg
Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of December 5, 2017
Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Brooks, to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2017 Newton City Council meeting.
Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Bloomberg, Rubsam
Nays: None
6. APPROVAL OF BILLS & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
Alderman Rubsam reviewed the pre-pays in the amount of \$229,633.45 and the bills and accounts payable earlier today and made a motion to approve the pre-pays and authorize payment of the bills and accounts payable in the amount of \$143,478.84.
Brooks seconded the motion.
Ayes: Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Bloomberg, Rubsam, Brown
Nays: None
7. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: **None**
8. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. Consider and act on approving an Ordinance 17-11 to Amend Chapter 22, Article VIII of the Revised Code of Ordinances. (The State of Illinois mandates that all governmental units adopt an ordinance establishing a policy prohibiting sexual harassment, PA 100-0554.)
Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Rubsam, to pass Ordinance 17-11 to Amend Chapter 22, Article VIII of the Revised Code of Ordinances.
Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Bloomberg, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks,
Nays: None
 - b. Consider and act on the three plans from Plan Success, LLC: 1. City of Newton and Greater Jasper County Strategic Marketing Plan, 2. City of Newton Comprehensive Plan and 3. Planning Policies
Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Brooks, to approve the three plans from Plan Success, LLC: 1. City of Newton and Greater Jasper County Strategic Marketing Plan, 2. City of Newton Comprehensive Plan and 3. Planning Policies.
Ayes: Blake, Bloomberg, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Reisner,
Nays: None
 - c. Consider and act on Pay Estimate #1, due B & T Drainage, for work on the South Van Buren Water Replacement project in the amount of \$103,679.00.
Motion was made by Bloomberg, seconded by Rubsam, to authorize the payment of Pay Estimate #1, due B & T Drainage, for work on the South Van Buren Water Replacement project in the amount of \$103,679.00.
Ayes: Bloomberg, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake,
Nays: None

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December 19, 2017

- d. Considering and act on engineering invoice due Connor & Connor, for work on the South Van Buren Water Replacement Project in the amount of \$15,437.00.

Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Bloomberg, to authorize the payment of engineering invoice due Connor & Connor, for work on the South Van Buren Water Replacement Project in the amount of \$15,437.00.

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

Nays: None

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consider and act on accepting the lowest responsible three-year auditor quote for the annual City auditing services.

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brooks, to authorize the lowest responsible three-year auditor quote for the annual City auditing services from Kemper CPA Group I.I.P: 2018 at \$11,050, 2019 at \$11,425 and 2020 at \$11,800.

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

Nays: None

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Rubsam: The Finance Committee met 12-18-17---- Reviewed audit bids from Scheffel Boyle, Certified Public Accounts, Belleville, IL and Kemper CPA Group, Robinson, IL for one or three-year contracts. After discussion, committee recommends the lowest bid proposal for a three-year audit contract from Kemper CPA Group. Under other Finance Committee related items, committee discussed light duty for city employees. Committee recommended after a physician recommends light duty, the department head and committee chairman must agree that light duty is available. This will apply to all departments. Under other Finance Committee related items, committee reviewed TIF application for 122 West Washington St. for a business sign. With requirements met, committee recommends TIF funds be allocated in amount of \$537.50.

Brooks: The Water Committee met 12-18-17-- The water committee met to discuss a proposed 5 year plan for maintenance and improvements to the water system. Shannon Woodard will meet with Treasurer Melissa Brooks to finalize the proposed plan. The plan will be adopted at a later meeting. The 5 year plan is just a guide line for the water department. This plan will give the water department an outline to strive for. Department head Weber talked about other issues for the water department.

11. STATEMENTS:

Bloomberg: The Holly Jolly Ice Rink was a big success. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

Blake: Read the Jasper County Animal Report. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

Reisner: The community lost one of their businessmen today, Max Short. He will be missed.

Brooks: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

Brown: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

Rubsam: There were 782 people that used the ice rink. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

City Attorney: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

City Treasurer: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

City Clerk: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

Mayor Bolander: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.

12. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING: January 2, 2018 at 6:00 PM

The next regular meeting of the Newton City Council will be January 2, 2018 at 6:00 PM.

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: None

There are no scheduled committee meetings.

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

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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 purchase of real estate pursuant to the exceptions section of the Open Meetings Act pertaining to those areas of discussion.

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

Nays: None

Open session suspended at 6:21 PM.

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

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

Nays: None

Open session resumed at 6:30 PM.

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

- The need for a memory care facility was discussed.
- Connor & Connor are checking on the sidewalk on S. Van Buren which still needs improved.

14. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM.

Submitted by Rosetta York