

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

August 7, 2018 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 Larry Brooks

Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Alderman Larry Brooks

3. ROLL CALL: Rosetta York, City Clerk

Physically present: Steve Rubsam, David Brown, Larry Brooks, Eric Blake and Marlene Harris

Absent: Robert Reisner

Also present: Attorney Max Tedford, Treasurer Melissa Brooks, Clerk Rosetta York

4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA: Delete 7D and Edit 8A to 18-12

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Rubsam, to adopt the amended agenda.

Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Blake and Harris

Nays: None

5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of July 17, 2018: Edit 2017 Appropriations to 2018

Appropriations

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Harris, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Newton City Council July 17, 2018.

Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris, Rubsam

Nays: None

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: Shannon Woodard, Amber Volk and Scott Bierman

Shannon Woodard spoke on the Connor & Connor projects in progress.

- **The grant for Jourdan St. has been endorsed by IDOT and 100% funding is requested.**
- **Dhom water main extension and upgraded service lines on North side of Rt. 130 has the IDOT permit and all the easements. They are waiting on the Illinois EPA permit which should be soon. To install the main and upgrades will only take two week max.**
- **Construction on the dewatering slug dumpster has not been started but it is promised to begin soon. Wastewater has been testing material samples for the bag to line the dumpster.**
- **On the agenda tonight are two Water department items. One is start the bid requests for south water tower and approving the revised Water Department 5 year plan.**
- **Connor & Connor have been working with the City and County on a possible law enforcement center. Discussions are continuing.**

The Mayor: Scott Bierman and Amber Volk were introduced to the Council. Tonight under New Business the council will be voting on 18-12 Creating Economic Development position, employment agreement with Amber Volk / Economic Development Coordinator and intergovernmental agreement with JEDI and County. Ken Larimore will help train Amber.

Amber Volk gave a brief verbal resume' then answered questions from the Council.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Consider and act on authorizing Connor & Connor to proceed with soliciting bids for the cleaning & repainting of the South Water Tower with work to be completed in the 2019/2020 fiscal year.

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brooks, to authorize Connor & Connor to proceed with soliciting bids for the cleaning & repainting of the South Water Tower with work to be completed in the 2019/2020 fiscal year.

Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Harris, Rubsam, Brown

Nays: None

- B. Consider and act on approval of the "5 Year Plan" revision for the Water Department, due to a re-prioritizing of projects.

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brooks, to approve the "5 Year Plan" revision for the Water Department, due to a re-prioritizing of projects.

Ayes: Blake, Harris, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks

Nays: None

- C. Consider and act on Ordinance 18-11 Approving Sale of Real Estate (506 S. Van Buren St) and associated documents.

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Rubsam, to pass Ordinance 18-11 Approving Sale of Real Estate (506 S. Van Buren St) and associated documents.

Ayes: Harris, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Blake

Nays: None

- ~~D. Consider and act on Ordinance 18-12 Authorizing Sale of Municipally Owned Real Estate (506 S. Van Buren St) and associated documents.~~

- E. Consider and act on Real Estate Contract and the Notice of Sale to be published for 506 S. Van Buren St. and associated documents.

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brown, to approve Real Estate Contract and the Notice of Sale to be published for 506 S. Van Buren St. and associated documents.

Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Blake and Harris

Nays: None

- F. Consider and act on tobacco free policies for Peterson Park and Dufrain Park.

Motion was made by Brooks, seconded by Rubsam, to approve the tobacco free policies for Peterson Park and Dufrain Park.

Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Harris, Rubsam

Nays: Brown

- G. Consider and act on JB Esker & Sons, INC Pay estimate # 2 and Final with the amount due of \$3,196.33.

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Harris, to authorize the payment JB Esker & Sons, INC Pay estimate # 2 and Final with the amount due of \$3,196.33.

Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Harris, Rubsam, Brown

Nays: None

- H. Consider and act on Connor & Connor Engineering and Inspection invoice 12634 for part of the Owen St. to Henry St. project.

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Rubsam, to authorize the payment of Connor & Connor Engineering and Inspection invoice 12634 for part of the Owen St. to Henry St. project for \$4,425.00.

Ayes: Blake, Harris, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks

Nays: None

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Consider and act on Ordinance 18-12 creating Economic Development position.

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Harris, to pass Ordinance 18-12 Division XIII Economic Development Coordinator.

Ayes: Harris, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Blake

Nays: None

- B. Consider and act on employment agreement with Amber Volk / Economic Development Coordinator.

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Harris, to employment agreement with Amber Volk / Economic Development Coordinator.

Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris

Nays: None

- C. Consider and act on intergovernmental agreement with JEDI and County.

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brown, intergovernmental agreement with JEDI and County.

Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris, Rubsam

Nays: None

- D. Consider and act on authorizing Ken Larimore & Amber Volk to attend IML annual conference with fees of \$310/per person and ITIA annual conference in Chicago \$375 each ITIA member plus allowable expenses.

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Harris, to authorizing Ken Larimore & Amber Volk to attend IML annual conference with fees of \$310/per person and ITIA annual conference in Chicago \$375 each ITIA member plus allowable expenses.

Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Harris, Rubsam, Brown

Nays: None

- E. Consider and act on approving Newton Police Department to purchase 6 card readers and 6 brackets totaling the cost of \$3312.24.

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Blake, Newton Police Department to purchase 6 card readers and 6 brackets totaling the cost of \$3312.24.

Ayes: Blake, Harris, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks

Nays: None

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Water Committee 7-23: Discussed Liberty St. water main replacement which needs researched and considered for next year. Shannon Woodard start researching for bids on South Water Tower to be done next year. The radio for the water towers need replaced or serviced. Quotes will be research. Dhom water main extension will be starting soon. No bids for the Water Department new truck have been received. Tyler will check to see why. Skid stir came in today. A power rake for the skid stir for all departments to use will be investigated at an interdepartmental shared cost. Water plant computer will probably need serviced or replaced in the next year. Tyler is having problems with it. Adjourned at 6:15 PM

Police Committee 7-25: The Committee met to discuss the possibility of joining the County in their construction project. Shannon with Connor and Connor showed the Committee several design options. The consensus was to continue discussions with the County. Adjourned at 6:43 PM.

JEDI Committee 8-7: Guests Dr. Bloemer and Haj Roepking described the Newton Medical Clinic building project that will be on Washington Street behind the Medicine Shoppe. The clinic will have extended hours and be a great health benefit to the community. We are very pleased they are investing in Jasper County. Chairman Scott Bierman gave an update on the new JEDI Executive Director. Amber Volk has been selected. They city of Newton and Jasper County plan to approve her this week. She will be a city of Newton employee but work to benefit the entire county. Welcome Amber! Community marketing program. Mark Bolander explained the committee is researching a new Eagle symbol for county branding and will be meeting soon.

10. STATEMENTS:

Council Members:

Harris: No Comments

Blake: Gave the Jasper County Animal Report

Brooks: No Comment

Brown: No Comment

Rubsam: Jasper Chamber Cruise Night was a success.

City Attorney: No Comment

City Treasurer: Save the date September 26-27 for Snedeker Risk Management Conference.

City Clerk: No Comment

Mayor:

- Harry Brockus with Carle Richland Memorial Hospital, CRMH, spoke at Rotary with a handout of all the services CRMH provides at the Newton Clinic and the updates to the Newton clinic.
- Dr. Eric Bloemer and Haj Roepking spoke at Rotary at the next meeting about the clinic they are building on south side of the Medicine Shoppe. There are to be open every day
- The Mayor read a letter to the Editor, to be published in Thursday's Newton Press Mentor:

August 4, 2018

Dear Editor of the Newton Press-Mentor,

My sister and I have been visiting our family in Newton for decades. We usually come with our families in August and always look forward to our visit, not just because we love our family, but also because of the many activities, attractions and eating establishments which have become family traditions! Below is a list we've compiled of our favorite things to do and experience in and around Newton!

What to do in Newton, Illinois in the Summer (not necessarily in order!)

1. Swimming at the Newton Community Pool in Peterson Park
2. Playing miniature golf and hitting in the batting cages in Peterson Park
3. Taking in a movie or two at the Newton Drive in Movie Theater
4. Walking the trails in the woods at Sam Parr State Park
5. Wednesday night dinner at the Muddy Saloon in Wheeler for \$1.00 beer and \$2.00 pork burgers. They are open seven nights/week, but Wednesday is when our family and friends gather!
6. Hamburgers for lunch at the Moonshine General Store in Moonshine, Illinois. Get there early! They close at noon!
7. Taking a long walk on the Eagle Trail that starts at the bridge over the Embarass River (where the Old Mill Inn Restaurant used to be... we loved that too... RIP!)

8. If you are here the first week of August, don't miss the Effingham County Fair. The rodeo is our favorite night.
9. Experiencing the Large Things in a Small Town in Casey, from the largest rocking chair and mailbox to the largest pencil and golf tee!
10. Joe's Italian Restaurant on the square for friendly service and generous portions
11. The Firefly Restaurant, Bar and Grill in Effingham – check out the oversize carp in the pond in the back! Sometimes they have fish food out on the back deck to feed them!
12. Visit Rauch's Jewelers on the square to pick up Arndt's Homemade Fudge and enjoy the charming selection of jewelry and collectibles. June Bierman's friendly welcome and smile is as bright as the items on display!
13. Buying fresh peaches at Bigard's peach orchard. The best peaches I've ever tasted!
14. Bowling and sampling home-made pie at the Newton Bowling Alley.
15. Smoked chicken and ribs from Siever's Market.
16. Fried chicken dinners from the Filler Up Buffet.
17. The Cobblestone Inn has been a wonderful place to stay when there are just too many of us to fit in our family homes. The children love swimming in the indoor pool!
18. Last but not least, a tasty frozen treat from the Newton Dairy Queen!

I'm sure other families have other favorites to add the list, but, the point is, that Newton, Illinois is a wonderful place to visit!

Very truly yours,
Cathy Kellstrom and Marisa Cordery

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: **August 21, 2018 at 6:00 PM**

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: **Street Committee Monday, August 13, 2018 at 5:30 PM and Finance Committee Meeting August 13, 2018 at 6:30 PM**

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

Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Harris, to go out of open session and into closed session to discuss litigation, potential litigation, personnel, 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: Harris, Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Blake

Nays: None

Open session suspended at **7:05 PM.**

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

Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris

Nays: None

Open session resumed at **7:52 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 Blake, seconded by Brown, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris, Rubsam

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Submitted by Rosetta York