

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. Van Buren St

Newton, IL 62448

March 6, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mark Bolander, Mayor
Mayor Mark Bolander called the meeting to order.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Alderman Scott Bloomberg
The 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, Eric Blake
Absent: Larry Brooks and Scott Bloomberg
Also present: Attorney Max Tedford, Treasurer Melissa Brooks, Clerk Rosetta York
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA: **Delete 7C**
Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brown, to adopt the amended agenda.
Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Reisner, Blake
Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of February 20, 2018 meeting
Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brown, to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2018 regular meeting of the Newton City Council.
Ayes: Brown, Reisner, Blake, Rubsam
Nays: None
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: **NONE**
7. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. Consider and act on Ordinance 18-01 "To Amend Division X – City Collector."
Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Rubsam, to pass Ordinance 18-01 "To Amend Division X – City Collector."
Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Rubsam, Brown
Nays: None
 - B. Consider and act on Ordinance 18-02 Approving Sale of Municipally Owned Real Estate. (602 Steven St.)
Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Rubsam, to pass Ordinance 18-02 Approving Sale of Municipally Owned Real Estate. (602 Steven St.)
Ayes: Blake, Rubsam, Brown, Reisner
Nays: None
 - ~~C. Consider and act on the quotes to scrape 506 S. Van Buren St. property.~~
8. NEW BUSINESS:
 - A. Consider and act on approving opening the yard waste facility to be open the first and third Saturdays from 8:00 AM to noon beginning Saturday April 7, 2018, under the landscape waste collection site rules.
Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Rubsam, to approve opening the yard waste facility to be open the first and third Saturdays from 8:00 AM to noon beginning Saturday April 7, 2018, under the landscape waste collection site rules.
Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Reisner, Blake
Nays: None
 - B. Consider and act on not raising electric rates for upcoming fiscal year, May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019.
Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Brown, to not raise electric rates for upcoming fiscal year May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019.
Ayes: Brown, Reisner, Blake, Rubsam
Nays: None
 - C. Consider and act on Newton Police Department employee to attend Lakeland Drone Training, fee for class is \$349.00, fee for the test is \$150.00 plus allowable expenses.
Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Blake, to authorize Newton Police Department employee to attend Lakeland Drone Training, fee for class is \$349.00, fee for the test is \$150.00 plus allowable expenses.
Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Rubsam, Brown
Nays: None
 - D. Consider and act on Newton Police Department employee to attend Instructor Development School, March 6-8, 2018 no fees plus allowable expenses.
Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Reisner, to authorize Newton Police Department employee to attend Instructor Development School, March 6-8, 2018 no fees plus allowable expenses.
Ayes: Blake, Rubsam, Brown, Reisner
Nays: None

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9. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Blake: The Negotiations Committee met February 28. The meeting called to order at 6:00 PM. Went into Executive Session to discuss Negotiations with Local 1197 and Personnel. Out of Executive at 6:55 PM. Committee met with the Union and Doug Towler to discuss Collective Bargaining Agreement. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

10. STATEMENTS:

Council Members:

Rubsam: No Comment

Brown: Doug Long reported EMA has their drone and it is working. EMA needs to get battery pack and an ipad for the drone. They had 3 FFA certified drone pilots. The park is draining water to get ready for painting the pool this year. Aquatic Center Facebook ad for summer help got 4,000 views. The big pavilion has 3 leaks.

Reisner: There will be a Wastewater Committee Meeting March 12 at 5:30 PM to discuss 5 year plan. There is a 20" drainage tile by Wolf Eye Care that the City and INRR are collaborating on how to repair.

Blake: There will be a Negotiation Meeting March 15 at 6:00 PM.

City Attorney: No Comment

City Treasurer: Presented 4 appropriation changes

Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Brown, to make the following appropriation changes in the General Fund Police Department \$200.00 from contingency fund to building improvements and Electric Department: (1) Move \$2000.00 from contingency fund to supplies, (2) Move \$2,000.00 from the contingency fund to tool repair and (3) Move \$15,000.00 from contingency fund to system repair.

Ayes: Rubsam, Brown, Reisner, Blake

Nays: None

City Clerk: The fiber optic bore permit is waiting for MCC to contact us. Zoning Committee is having a hearing to review the map.

Mayor: Sale tax rate of Newton compared to other towns.

(Note: the table is from "Richland County Citizen's for Tomorrow Students" posted by Susan Iffert Lindley on Facebook - R. York)

Comparative Sales Tax Rate

City	Sales Tax Rate
Albion	7.250%
Carbondale	9.750%
Champaign	9.000%
Charleston	7.750%
Effingham	7.500%
Evansville	7.000%
Fairfield	7.000%
Fairview Heights	8.350%
Flora	7.250%
Lawrenceville	7.250%
Mattoon	7.750%
Mt. Carmel	7.250%
Newton	6.250%
Olin	6.750%
Robinson	6.250%
Salem	8.500%
Vincennes	7.000%

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: **March 20, 2018 at 6:00 PM**

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Dues and Donations Committee March 19 at 6:00 PM, Wastewater Committee March 12, 2018 at 5:30 PM and Negotiation Committee March 15 at 6:00 PM

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Litigation, potential litigation, sale of real estate and purchase of real estate
Motion was made by Rubsam, seconded by Reisner, 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: Brown, Reisner, Blake, Rubsam

Nays: None

Open session suspended at **6:28 PM.**

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

Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Rubsam, Brown

Nays: None

Open session resumed at **6:44 PM.**

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

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ayes: Blake, Rubsam, Brown, Reisner

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at **6:59 PM.**

Submitted by Rosetta York

