



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. Van Buren St

Newton, IL 62448

December 6, 2022

Public Hearing to Annex on December 6, 2022 at 5:45 PM

There were no comments, statements or objections to the annexation.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Joshua J. Kuhl, Mayor
Mayor Joshua J. Kuhl called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM
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: Gayle Glumac, David Brown, Larry Brooks, RJ Lindemann, Eric Blake and Marlene Harris
Also present: Attorney William Heap and Clerk Rosetta York
Not Present: Treasurer Melissa Brooks
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA:
Motion was made by Lindemann, seconded by Harris, to adopt the amended/proposed agenda.
Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Harris
Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of November 15, 2022.
Motion was made by Brooks, seconded by Glumac, to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2022 of the Newton City Council.
Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Harris, Glumac
Nays: None
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: Chief Riley Britton
Chief Britton: About a month ago we had a robbery in town and thanks to the work of the officers and our new cameras, we were able to get the suspects in the case. Thank you to the Council for the cameras that helped.
7. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS: **Lindemann:**
Finance/Audit Committee Meeting Monday, December 5, 2022 at 6:00 PM
Present: Melissa Brooks, RJ Lindemann, Rosie York, Marlene Harris, Gayle Glumac and Larry Brooks
Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.
TIF application for 604 S. Van Buren Street was revisited. It was recommended that the council award the full requested amount of \$2,850.00.
The final IMRF rates were discussed. It was decided to lower the contribution rate from 9.32% to 6.39%.
Meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.
8. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. Consider and act on Ordinance 22-17 Annual Tax Levy.
Motion was made by Lindemann, seconded by Glumac, to pass Ordinance 22-17 Annual Tax Levy.
Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown
Nays: None
 - B. Consider and act on the Abatement Certificate for Aquatic Facility.
Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Lindemann, to authorize the Abatement Certificate for Aquatic Facility.
Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks
Nays: None

For the City of Newton, the following Symetra rates are proposed for a January 1, 2023 effective date:



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Specific Stop Loss Premium:

Single- \$709

Family- \$1,786

(4% Increase)

Aggregate Stop Loss Premium:

Composite Rate: \$35

(0% Increase)

Aggregate Factors: These are the factors that are used to calculate your aggregate attachment point.

Single - \$482

Family - \$1,197

(0% Increase)

Current Loss Ratio:

42%

- C. Consider and act on Symetra insurance rates.

Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Glumac, to authorize 2023 Symetra insurance rates.

Ayes: Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Lindemann

Nays: None

- D. Consider and act on IMRF (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund) contribution rate of 6.39% for 2023.

Motion was made by Lindemann, seconded by Harris, to authorize IMRF (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund) contribution rate of 6.39% for 2023.

Ayes: Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake

Nays: None

- E. Consider and act on TIF application for 604 S. Van Buren St.

Motion was made by Lindemann, seconded by Glumac, to authorize TIF reimbursement to Jane Kibler of \$2,850 which is 50% of the total project at 604 S. Van Buren St.

Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Harris

Nays: None

- F. Consider and act on Partial Pay Estimate #2, due Beanland & Son Drilling, in the amount of \$114,070.00 for work on Water Well #10.

Motion was made by Brooks, seconded by Lindemann, to authorize Partial Pay Estimate #2, due Beanland & Son Drilling, in the amount of \$114,070.00 for work on Water Well #10.

Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Harris, Glumac

Nays: None

- G. Consider and act on not increasing all contribution rates for the City of Newton Health Care Plan for employee's contribution and the City's contributions effective with 2023 coverage.

Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Glumac, to authorize not increasing all contribution rates for the City of Newton Health Care Plan for employee's contribution and the City's contributions effective with 2023 coverage.

Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown

Nays: None

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Consider and act on the Petition to Annex.

Motion was made by Lindemann, seconded by Brown, to authorize the Petition to Annex parcel PIN # 90-12-02-100-117 at 1407 W. Jourdan St.

Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks

Nays: None

- B. Consider and act on Special Event Permit application for "Christmas on the Square" on December 10, 2022 between 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Motion was made by Glumac, seconded by Lindemann, to authorize Special Event Permit application for "Christmas on the Square" on December 10, 2022 between 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Ayes: Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Lindemann

Nays: None

- C. Consider and act on hiring Adam Bridges as a part-time Newton Police Officer.

Motion was made by Lindemann, seconded by Brown, to authorize hiring Adam Bridges as a part-time Newton Police Officer.



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Ayes: Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake

Nays: None

10. STATEMENTS:

Council Members:

Glumac: "I'd like to thank the electric department for getting all the lights up and everything. Don't know if everybody realizes, but they have to maintain all those. Fix them every year when they come down and they look real good and all the lights are working. I'd like to thank them for their help for getting a park set up. And the park is fantastic. I'd like to thank the Leachmans for that and everybody enjoy our parade and everything we got coming up."

Brown: No comments

Brooks: The City looks really nice the lights and everything.

RJ Lindemann: Happy Advent

Blake: I'd like to thank Melissa for her work on the Ordinance 22-17 we voted on tonight.

Blake mentioned a water plant personnel issue which the Mayor choose to speak on:

Mayor: "We have three full time employees within our city Newton Water department with only one of them holding a proper license to maintain that water facility, flush hydrants, perform any type of maintenance/sampling. I mean, the plethora of stuff that goes on a daily basis. So about 45 days ago, we presented to those two employees that were unlicensed to start obtaining that with online classes and then going and taking the test. We've essentially had some a little bit of pushback from that standard side. So just to I mean, essentially with this council know that we'll be having a personnel. It'll be at first we'll start small mean we'll have some litigation with the union, their arbitrator and ourselves probably Eric, myself and Tyler representing the water department which will then call for a personnel meeting as a group. So, you guys do need to be aware essentially what's happening the other day. I mean, it's the scope of the job. Unfortunately, we have steps that we have to take to. With that employee base that they are represented by the union. So, we will we will walk those steps that we will maintain our position, though, that that is a requirement of the job to work as an employee of the city of Newton and for the water department, and that you will not change my mind regardless of the path that we have to take. So, I wanted you guys all be aware of that. And I thank Eric for bringing that up to the council. I don't want anybody to have to feel like they put that on their shoulders. That came from me personally. So, if anybody does have any questions, reach out to me or send them my way. So, thank you."

Harris: I don't have anything other than the park looks great.

City Attorney: No Comments

City Clerk: No Comments

Mayor Kuhl:

1. "The lights in the park do look amazing. The amount of traffic that it has created in the two weekends that it's been started has been phenomenal."
2. "My hat's off to the Leachman family for the time that they spend setting that up and then every evening opening the park, getting everything up and going and getting the people together to take the donations and then shutting everything down at the end of the night. So, hats off to them."
3. "Thank you to the electrical department for their work, not only in the city park but around the square. If you guys have noticed there's been some additions locally or excuse me, downtown to some of our lights. That was at the request of a committee that Sarah is a part of locally. Christmas, virtually the same thing that involves the Christmas on the square to continue to add those things. So, hats off to them once again."
4. "Jane Excavating. I know it made Andre's job a lot easier. We've got a few more things to add coming into next year, which are simple and truly. I think those are things in house that we can take care of."
5. "Thanks to Tiffany Keller for virtually taking out the flowers and pots, decorating on the Christmas side and just some other things that they've done around the square in preparation for not only the holidays but the Square. So, this weekend on Saturday, it looks like it starts at 11 with the parade at seven, which is obviously a lighted parade. So, hopefully everybody can get out to be a part of that as well. So, thank you to that group for putting that on."

Sarah Kinkade: "We have the most entries that we've ever had for the parade. It's going to be really good. All the activities that we are having on the square are free. We have a train



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that kids can ride in free, balloon animals, free face painting. Everything's free. So, it's really good."

She thanked the City employees for their cooperation.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: **Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM**

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: **None**

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: **None**

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Lindemann, seconded by Glumac, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Harris

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Submitted by Rosetta M. York

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rosetta M. York". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.