



UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. Van Buren St

Newton, IL 62448

February 18, 2020

There is an Insurance Committee Meeting at 5:45 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mark Bolander, Mayor
Mayor Mark Bolander called the meeting to order.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Alderman Robert Reisner.
Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Alderman Robert Reisner.
3. ROLL CALL: Rosetta York, City Clerk
Physically present: Gayle Glumac, David Brown, Robert Reisner, Eric Blake and Marlene Harris
Absent: Larry Brooks
Also present: Attorney William Heap, Treasurer Melissa Brooks and Clerk Rosetta York
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA: Add Gary Lindemann, Newton Fire District Chief to agenda item #7
Motion was made by Glumac, seconded by Harris, to adopt the amended agenda.
Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Reisner, Blake, Harris
Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of February 4, 2020:
Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Reisner, to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2020 meeting of the Newton City Council.
Ayes: Brown, Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac
Nays: None
6. APPROVAL OF BILLS & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
Alderman Harris reviewed the pre-pays in the amount of \$176,240.97 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 \$67,946.42.
Glumac seconded the motion.
Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown
Nays: None
7. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: Gary Lindemann, Newton Fire District Chief
Fire Chief Lindemann: He asked about the closing of more railroad crossings within the City of Newton. The council discussed that Illinois Commerce Commission has offered \$200,000/crossing, IDOT has offered \$7,500 and Indiana Railroad offering \$7,500/crossing with a total of \$215,000 to close each crossing. But, the decision to close any railroad crossing has not been made. It is being considered. Fire Chief Lindemann spoke on his concerns about closing certain crossings, such as: access to a possible fire in areas of town, access and availability of fire hydrants on both sides of a closed crossing and the ISO rating in the City for homes and businesses insurance rates.
8. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. Consider and act on authorizing Cobra/IMRF's continuation of rates effective March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021.

REGULAR COVERAGE			
2019/2020 Rates		2020 Rates	
Single	\$779.92	Single	\$862.08
Family	\$1,754.82	Family	\$1,939.67
MRP COVERAGE			
2019/2020 Rates		2020 Rates	
Single	\$427.46	Single	\$524.35
Family	\$961.79	Family	\$1,179.78
Dental Coverage			
2019/2020 Rates		2020 Rates	
Single	\$20.69	Single	\$30.39
Family	\$46.56	Family	\$68.38

Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Reisner, to authorize Cobra/IMRF's continuation of rates effective March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021.
Ayes: Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Reisner
Nays: None

- b. Consider and act on authorizing the Intergovernmental Agreement Concerning Starcom Radio Communication System.
Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Harris, to authorize the Intergovernmental Agreement Concerning Starcom Radio Communication System with Jasper County's share of \$53,816.60, City of Newton's share of \$53,816.60 and 911 Board's share of \$12,657.18.
Ayes: Harris, Glumac, Brown, Reisner, Blake
Nays: None
- c. Consider and act on purchasing 8 mobile and 4 portable refurbished Starcom radios.
Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Reisner, to authorize the purchasing 8 refurbished Starcom mobiles and 4 extra refurbished Starcom portable radios for emergency situations, at a cost of \$6,000.00 from the NPD's DUI and Drug Funds.



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Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Reisner, Blake, Harris

Nays: None

d. Consider and act on authorizing the City Wide Clean Up on May 15-16, 2020.

Motion was made by Glumac, seconded by Harris, to authorize the City Wide Clean Up on May 15-16, 2020.

Ayes: Brown, Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac

Nays: None

e. Consider and act on authorizing the entering into the Illinois Commerce Commission Stipulated Agreement 2037 which is a safety upgrade on Scott Ave. crossing.

Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Harris, to authorize the entering into the Illinois Commerce Commission Stipulated Agreement 2037 which is a safety upgrade on Scott Ave. crossing.

Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown

Nays: None

9. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Consider and act on passing Resolution 20-01 concerning Closed Session Minutes.

b. Consider and act on passing Resolution 20-02 Authorizing the Destruction of Closed Meetings Sessions tapes between 2/6/2018 to 7/17/2018.

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Glumac, to table (9a.) Resolution 20-01 and (9b.) Resolution 20-02 until after the executive session.

Ayes: Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Reisner

Nays: None

c. Consider and act on not raising the City's electric rates for the fiscal year 2020-21.

Motion was made by Glumac, seconded by Reisner, to authorize not raising the City's electric rates for the fiscal year 2020-21.

Ayes: Harris, Glumac, Brown, Reisner, Blake

Nays: None

d. Consider and act on passing 20-02 City Ordinance Amending the 21-2-7 Class E liquor licenses. (Increasing the number of Class E Liquor Licenses from 4 to 6.)

Motion was made by Blake, seconded by Glumac, to pass 20-02 City Ordinance Amending the 21-2-7 Class E liquor licenses. (Increasing the number of Class E Liquor Licenses from 4 to 6.)

Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Reisner, Blake, Harris

Nays: None

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS: Water and Wastewater Committee on February 10, 2020, Street Committee on February 10, 2020, Finance Committee on February 17, 2020 and Insurance Committee on February 18, 2020.

Reisner – Water and Wastewater 2-10-2020:

- Discussed the flat rates for water and wastewater at multiple unit accounts with one meter supplying all units.
- Gary Lindemann discussed the need for a couple of fire hydrants. Tyler will consult with Connor & Connor to determine the best location for them.
- Discussed the raising the tapping on fee for ¾ inch hook ups from \$600 to \$750 per tap due to the increase in materials and borings expenses.
- Brent discussed the cross connection survey and getting a decanting pump for the vac truck. Water and wastewater will put the shared cost for the decant pump in next year's budget.
- Tyler discussed the Magnolia Apartment water meters access. Meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM.

Reisner--Street 2-10-2020:

- Discussed the replacing gutter along State highways 33 and 130. Josh will get some cost estimates.
- Discussed getting a new plow truck and new roller for their 5 year plan. Josh will get some prices.
- Indiana Railroad would like to close at least one or more railroad crossings in Newton.
- Committee discussed Walnut and Sycamore RR crossings. Adjourned at 7:10 PM

Harris-- Finance on 2-17-2020:

- Mike Weber came and projected different amounts of the TIF that we could give to Jasper County Community Unit #1.
- Discussed different amounts to contribute to the school.
- I will set up a finance meeting the council and with Andy Johnson, and whomever he would like to come.
- Along with a telephone conference call with Mike Weber.
- Discussed paying back the City electric department the amount that was borrowed.
- Discussed closings of RR tracks.



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- Discussed Welcome signs.
Discussed Pool features. Adjourned at 7:05 PM

Harris-- Insurance on 2-18-2020:

- Cobra Rates were discussed and the amounts were recommended by Jason Booth with Snedeker Risk Management. Adjourned at 5:55 PM.

11. STATEMENTS:

Council Members:

Glumac: Mapping is going well. There is still high level of interest. The next one is at Grove.

Brown: No comment

Reisner: Last week Ethan Yost, An Eagle Scout, donated two benches to the Eagle Trail Walking and Biking Trails.

Blake: No comment

Harris: She presented the Payment and Billing Adjustment Report to the Council. She also complimented the Water Department and other assisting Department employees on their excellent water leak repair on Marion St. this past weekend.

City Attorney: No comment

City Treasurer: No comment

City Clerk: No comment

Mayor:

- He asked Alderman Brown if he had the "Request For a Proposal" (RFP) for the solid waste management franchise ready to be published. Brown said it was close to being ready.
- He asked Brown if the Pool had advertised for summer help yet. Brown said that Brad usually does it at about this time of year.
- Mayor said the City needs "NO SEMI TRUCK" signs on certain streets with the upcoming repairs to the railroad crossings. A sign such as:



12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: March 3, 2020 at 6:00 PM

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: None

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Litigation, potential litigation, sale of real estate and Closed Session Minutes.

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

Ayes: Brown, Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac

Nays: None

Open session suspended at 6:40 PM

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

Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown

Nays: None

Open session resumed at 7:11 PM.

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

(9a) Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Harris, to pass Resolution 20-01 Closed Session Minutes.

Ayes: Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Reisner

Nays: None

(9b) Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Brown, to pass Resolution 20-02 Authorizing the Destruction of Closed Meetings Sessions Audio Recording.

Ayes: Harris, Glumac, Brown, Reisner, Blake

Nays: None

14. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Reisner, Blake, Harris

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 PM.

Submitted by Rosetta M. York