



## UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. Van Buren St

Newton, IL 62448

December 17, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mark Bolander, Mayor  
**Mayor Bolander called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.**
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: Gayle Glumac, David Brown, Larry Brooks, Robert Reisner, Eric Blake and Marlene Harris**  
**Absent: None**  
**Also present: Attorney Max Tedford, Treasurer Melissa Brooks and Clerk Rosetta York**
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA:  
**Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Harris, to adopt the proposed agenda.**  
**Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Harris**  
**Nays: None**
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of December 3, 2019.  
**Motion was made by Blake, seconded by Brooks, to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2019 meeting of the Newton City Council.**  
**Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac**  
**Nays: None**
6. APPROVAL OF BILLS & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  
**Alderman Harris reviewed the pre-paids in the amount of \$118,548.97 and the bills and accounts payable earlier today and make a motion to approve the pre-paids and authorize payment of the bills and accounts payable in the amount of \$72,457.97.**  
**Brown seconded the motion.**  
**Ayes: Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown**  
**Nays: None**
7. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: None  
**John Stone and Shannon Woodard from Connor & Connor wished a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the Council and City Employees.**
8. OLD BUSINESS:
  - a. Consider and act on 2020 Newton City Council Meeting Schedule.  
**Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Glumac, to approve 2020 Newton City Council Meeting Schedule.**  
**Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks**  
**Nays: None**
  - b. Consider and act on increasing the Symetra specific stop loss deductible to \$20,000 effective 1-1-20.  
**Motion was made by Brooks, seconded by Reisner, to authorize increasing the Symetra specific stop loss deductible to \$20,000 effective 1-1-20.**  
**Ayes: Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Reisner**  
**Nays: None**
  - c. Consider and act on increasing all contribution rates for the City of Newton Health Care Plan for both employees and the City by 15% effective with 2020 coverage.  
**Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Glumac, to authorize increasing all contribution rates for the City of Newton Health Care Plan for both employees and the City by 15% effective with 2020 coverage.**  
**Ayes: Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake**  
**Nays: None**
  - d. Consider and act on changing City of Newton Health Care Plan benefits effective 1-1-20 as follows:
    1. Increase major medical deductible to \$500 per individual (max of 2 times per family)
    2. Increase major medical out of pocket limit to \$2,500 per individual (max of 2 times per family).
    3. Decrease to 80% what the plan pays after the deductible for covered in-network services (other than for services paid at 100%).
    4. Increase prescription drug co-pays to \$20 for generic and \$40 for brand (2 times for 90-day mail order).**Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Brooks, to authorize the changes to the City of Newton Health Care Plan benefits effective 1-1-20 as follows:**



UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. Van Buren St

Newton, IL 62448

December 17, 2019

1. Increase major medical deductible to \$500 per individual (max of 2 times per family)
2. Increase major medical out of pocket limit to \$2,500 per individual (max of 2 times per family).
3. Decrease to 80% what the plan pays after the deductible for covered in-network services (other than for services paid at 100%).
4. Increase prescription drug co-pays to \$20 for generic and \$40 for brand (2 times for 90-day mail order).

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

Nays: None

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consider and act on Dumpster reimbursement for 202 E. Washington St. for \$290.00.

Motion was made by Blake, seconded by Harris, to authorize Dumpster reimbursement at 202 E. Washington St. for \$290.00 to Steve and Sharon Shull.

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

Nays: None

- b. Consider and act on 2 Newton Police employees attending 20th Annual Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Summit in Mt. Vernon, IL at \$85.00 per person, on Feb 26 and Feb 27, 2020 plus allowable expenses.

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Reisner, to authorize 2 Newton Police employees attending 20th Annual Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Summit in Mt. Vernon, IL at \$85.00 per person, on Feb 26 and Feb 27, 2020 plus allowable expenses.

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

Nays: None

- c. Consider and act on 2 Newton Police employees attending 2020 Annual ILEAS Conference in Springfield, IL at \$100.00 per person, on March 29-31, 2020 plus allowable expenses.

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Harris, to authorize 2 Newton Police employees attending 2020 Annual ILEAS Conference in Springfield, IL at \$100.00 per person, on March 29-31, 2020 plus allowable expenses.

Ayes: Reisner, Blake, Harris, Glumac,

Brown, Brooks

Nays: None

The Mayor read Max Tedford's letter of resignation.

- d. Consider and act on approving Max Tedford's letter of resignation effective 12-31-19.

Motion was made by Reisner, seconded by Glumac, to approve and accept Max Tedford's letter of resignation effective 12-31-19.

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

Nays: None



The Mayor presented Max with a plaque and thanked him for 27.5 years of service to the City of Newton.

CARROLL T. COX (1912-1978)  
G. KENT PHILLIPS (1913-2008)  
FRANK J. WEBER  
MAX L. TEDFORD  
WILLIAM G. HEAP  
"CRAIG O. WEBER"  
J. STEVEN AYRES  
STEVEN A. GREENE

\*ALSO ADMITTED IN INDIANA

WEBER, TEDFORD, HEAP & AYRES, P.C.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
102 EAST MAIN STREET  
P.O. BOX 260  
ROBINSON, ILLINOIS 62484  
PHONE: 618-544-8681  
FAX NO. 618-544-3033  
EMAIL: law@office@wtaha.law

OFFICES ALSO AT:  
122 SOUTH VAN BUREN  
P.O. BOX 7  
NEWTON, ILLINOIS 62448  
PHONE: 618-783-8471  
FAX: 618-783-3199

104 NORTH RANGE STREET  
OBLONG, ILLINOIS 62449  
PHONE: 618-592-4811  
FAX: 618-592-4824

PLEASE REPLY TO:  
ROBINSON

November 19, 2019

Honorable Mark Bolander  
City of Newton, Illinois  
108 N. Van Buren Street  
Newton, IL 62448

Dear Mayor Bolander:

I am writing to let you know that effective January 1, 2020 after 42 plus years I am retiring from the full time practice of law. For not less than 30 plus of those years, I have had the honor and privilege of serving under the administrations of David Dhom, Robert Burris, Ross McLane, Bob Kernans and Mark Bolander. Each Mayor has brought their unique talents to the job, but all have had one common objective and that is the success and betterment of the City of Newton.

In the recent past, I have enjoyed working with Mayor Mark Bolander, the current elected and appointed officials as well as the current members of the City Council. All have contributed to making the City of Newton one of the most progressive and fiscally sound cities in Southern Illinois.

My partners, Attorney Frank J. Weber, William G. Heap, Craig O. Weber, J. Steven Ayres and Steven A. Greene will continue to maintain offices in the City of Newton as well as in the City of Robinson and Oblong, Illinois.

My partner, William G. Heap has over 40 years of experience and has handled various aspects of the City's business over the last several years. He certainly would be my logical successor and is willing to undertake those responsibilities.

I thank you for your past kindness and loyalty and want you to know that I have appreciated your trust and confidence in allowing me to serve as the Newton City Attorney.

May we all enjoy good health and happiness in the coming years.

Very truly yours,  
WEBER, TEDFORD, HEAP & AYRES, P.C.  
  
Max L. Tedford

MLT/lms/Newton ltr



## UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. Van Buren St

Newton, IL 62448

December 17, 2019

### 10. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS: Water Committee Meeting 12-9-19 and Insurance Committee Meeting 12-9-19

#### **Brooks, Water Committee—12-9-19:**

- Discussed the Liberty St. water main. The grants will be awarded after January 1, 2020. The City plans on budgeting for it in 30-60 days.
- Discussed that Itron is changing distributors after December 24, which will cause an increase in the cost per meter. Midwest Meter is the current distributor. The current price is \$75.00 per meter. It will save the City money to purchase the remaining Itron meters needed to change out the last 350 plus old style meters. There is enough money budgeted to purchase them.
- Discussed the current City tapping fee is \$600. Arcola, IL tapping fee is \$750. Albion, IL tapping fee is \$600. Albion is considering increasing their fees. Changing our fee will be discussed and considered at a future time.
- The bulk water sales station may need moved, but we will gather additional information for future discussions.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM

#### **Harris, Insurance Committee 12-9-19:**

- Discussed Health Insurance Rates for 2020:
- The City reinsurance limit will increase from \$15,000 to \$20,000.
- 15% increase on premium for employee and City is suggested.
- Deductible increase from \$250 to \$500.
- 90-10 out of pocket to 80-20 with a max of \$2,500 per individual.
- Prescription copay: \$10 to \$20 for generic and \$20 to \$40 for name brands.
- MedTrak will have savings of about \$15,000.
- Melissa Brooks will have Jason Booth with Snedeker Risk Management work up rates and coverages for first of the year at suggested changes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 PM.

### 11. STATEMENTS:

Council Members:

**Glumac:** Commended the City's employees for their snow removal. They did a great job. Wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It was a pleasure working with you Max. "It's been the bomb."

**Brown:** Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It was a pleasure working with you Max.

**Brooks:** Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thanked Max for all he had done for the City.

**Reisner:** Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It was a pleasure working with you Max.

**Blake:** Thanked Max. Blake also thanked the city employees for cleaning the street the past weekend.

**Harris:** Gave the Payment and Billing Adjustment Report to the Council and discussed it. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It was a pleasure working with you Max

**City Attorney:** I want to thank each and every one with the City. I have enjoyed being the City Attorney. I think the public fails to realize the time it requires to do this job or how demanding it can be.

He thanked everyone again.

**City Treasurer:** Thanked Max. Merry Christmas every one.

**City Clerk:** Water Department PO # 6517

**Motion was made by Brooks, seconded by Harris, to authorize Water Department purchase order # 6517 for \$33,075.00 to Midwest Meter for ERW1300-402 100w Encoders ERT (new meters).**

**Ayes: Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake**

**Nays: None**

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Mayor:**

a. Ask Chief Swick to speak:

1. Swick told the council about the Mary Heath Grant of \$20,000 awarded to Newton Police Department for the new radios, which is about half the cost.
2. He ask that the monthly or quarterly financials in the Insurance Accounts (commonly called the "Poke") be presented to the employees to see the trends.



## UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. Van Buren St

Newton, IL 62448

December 17, 2019

3. Thanked Max.

- b. The Mayor wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Congratulation to Max.
- c. He ask the council to consider having another lottery for Five April Crossing lots.

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: **January 7, 2020 at 6:00 PM**

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: **None**

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

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

**Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Blake, Harris**

**Nays: None**

**Open session suspended at 6:30 PM**

**Eric Blake left the meeting at 6:31 PM.**

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

**Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Reisner, Harris, Glumac**

**Nays: None**

**Open session resumed at 6:52 PM.**

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

The Mayor told the Council that Jasper County is having another Mapping Meeting tomorrow 12-18. They are meeting with Western Illinois University. Everyone is welcome.

14. ADJOURNMENT

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

**Ayes: Brooks, Reisner, Harris, Glumac, Brown**

**Nays: None**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.**

**Submitted by Rosetta York**