



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. VAN BUREN St.

NEWTON, IL 62448

November 7, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER: Joshua J. Kuhl, Mayor
Mayor Joshua Kuhl called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Mayor Joshua Kuhl.
Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Mayor Joshua Kuhl.
3. ROLL CALL: Maggie McDonald, City Clerk
Physically present: Gayle Glumac, Kaleb Wright, Larry Brooks, RJ Lindemann, Eric Blake and Mike Swick
Also present: Attorney William Heap, Treasurer Melissa Brooks and City Clerk Maggie McDonald
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA:
Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Eric Blake, to adopt the amended agenda.
Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick
Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of October 17, 2023.
Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by RJ Lindemann, to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2023 meeting of the Newton City Council.
Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac
Nays: None
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: **Lanette Huddleston, Sarah Diel, Tina Messina and Borgic Designs.**
 - **Lanette Huddleston:** Thanked whomever cleaned up the graffiti at the Old Mill Bridge. Inquired about a different solution to the parking spaces along the South side of E. Washington St. because they create a blind spot when pulling out of Peoples State Bank. Also, stated in front of City Hall the front sidewalk step is staggered and can be difficult for people to see.
 - **Sarah Diel, Tina Messina with the American Legion and Borgic Designs:** Touched base with the council on the Veterans' banners they would like to have displayed. Asked that the city pay for the first round of hardware for displaying banners. Sign up to purchase a banner will begin on November 11, 2023 at the American Legion after the Veterans' Day Program.
7. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:
 - **City Insurance Committee Meeting Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 6:00 PM.**
City of Newton Insurance Committee Meeting November 1, 2023, 6:00 PM – 7:25 PM
Meeting began at 6:00 pm
 - Property and Liability insurance quotes were discussed. It was decided that the city would proceed with insurance through RMAMeeting adjourned at 7:25 pm
Those in attendance: **RJ Lindemann – Chairman**, Ray Diel, Jacob Janssen, Tyler Weber, Jim Lyons, Mike Swick, Maggie McDonald, Larry Brooks, Melissa Brooks, Joshua Kuhl, Eric Blake, Kaleb Wright, Gayle Glumac
 - **Finance/Audit Committee Meeting Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 6:00 PM.**
Finance/Audit Committee Meeting Minutes Thursday, November 2, 2023, 6:00 PM – 7:35 PM
Meeting began at 6:00 pm
 - The 2022-2023 fiscal year audit was discussed. The city's audit came back clean.
 - The tax levy for 2023 was discussed. It was decided to keep rates as they are for the coming year.Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm
Those in attendance were: **RJ Lindemann – Chairman**, Eric Blake, Melissa Brooks, Mike Swick, Larry Brooks, Brenda Phillips, Tyler Weber, AnneMarie Clark, Kaleb Wright, Joshua Kuhl
8. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. Consider and act on approving the 2022/2023 fiscal year audit.
Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize approving the 2022/2023 fiscal year audit.



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Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright
Nays: None

- B. Consider and act on approving the 2022/2023 TIF fiscal year audit.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Larry Brooks, to approve the 2022/2023 TIF fiscal year audit.

Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks
Nays: None

- C. Consider and act on authorizing the proposal for City of Newton Property, Liability and Work Comp Insurance coverages from IML Risk Management Association in the amount of \$90,859.76. This amount does not include the extra cyber security coverage.

Motion was made by Larry Brooks, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize the proposal for City of Newton Property, Liability and Work Comp Insurance coverages to IML Risk Management Association in the amount of \$90,859.76. This amount does not include the extra cyber security coverage.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann
Nays: None

- D. Consider and act on authorizing the proposal for the City of Newton annual audit and annual TIF audit.

Motion was made by Eric Blake, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to table the proposal for the annual audit and annual TIF audit to the December 5, 2023 City Council Meeting.

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake
Nays: None

- E. Consider and act on utilizing the alley between Grace Methodist Church and the County Office Building for a beautification project.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to table utilizing the alley between Grace Methodist Church and the County Office Building for a beautification project to the December 5, 2023 City Council Meeting.

Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick
Nays: None

- F. Consider and act on authorizing the City of Newton to solicit bids for a new roof on the Newton Water Plant.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize the City of Newton to solicit bids for a new roof on the Newton Water Plant.

Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac
Nays: None

- G. Consider and act on authorizing the City of Newton to solicit bids for the South Van Buren St. Water Main Rehab.

Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Mike Swick, to authorize the City of Newton to solicit bids for the South Van Buren Water Main Replacement.

Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright
Nays: Lindemann

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discuss joint City of Newton/County of Jasper website.

Jason Warfel, Jasper County Board Chairman, spoke to the council in regards to an adjoining website. With 9,500 residents in Jasper County, a third of which live in the city, the idea to explore the county and city coming together to have one domain site seems beneficial. The city council gave their blessing to proceed with pricing information and specifications of the new website.

- B. Consider and act on Release of Property Owner Rehabilitation Mortgage for Rose Wallace.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize the Release of Property Owner Rehabilitation Mortgage for Rose Wallace.

Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks
Nays: None



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- C. Consider and act on authorizing a \$250.00 donation to the 2023 INRD Santa Train for coats, hats and gloves for families in need.

Motion was made by Eric Blake, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize a \$250.00 donation to the 2023 INRD Santa Train for coats, hats and gloves for families in need.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann

Nays: None

- D. Consider and act on authorizing St. Thomas a Special Event Liquor License for a Trivia Night Fund Raiser Event held on Saturday, February 24, 2024 from 5:00 PM – 12:00 AM.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize St. Thomas a Special Event Liquor License for a Trivia Night Fund Raiser Event held on Saturday, February 24, 2024 from 5:00 PM – 12:00 AM.

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake

Nays: None

10. STATEMENTS BY:

Glumac: Complimented Brad Benefiel and Mike Shackmann, with the Park Department, for all their hard work completing the mausoleum. It looks beautiful, be sure to check it out.

Wright: No Comments.

Brooks: No Comments.

Lindemann: Voiced opinion on Capital Development Fund.

Blake: No Comments.

Swick: Thank you to all involved in the beatification project at Hickory Dr. Voiced opinion on Capital Development Fund.

City Attorney: No comments.

City Treasurer: The treasurer's office has determined that the City would need to levy \$707,890 for the tax year 2023. The amount to be levied will not exceed the 2022 tax year levy extended by more than 5%.

City Clerk: No comments.

Mayor: Echoed Glumac's and Swick's statements. Thanked Matt Tarr, with the Electric Department, for helping with Lights in the Park and all the Electric Department does for different organizations and events held in our city. Also, thanked Matt for his service as a Veteran, and all other Veterans in our community.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: November 21, 2023 at 6:00 PM

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- **Joint Review Board Meeting Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 10:00 AM.**
- **Police and Building Permit Committee Meeting Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 6:00 PM.**

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Municipal power (5 ILCS 120/2(2)(c)(23)).

Motion was made by Gayle Glumac, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to go out of open session and into closed session to discuss municipal power pursuant to the exceptions section of the Open Meetings Act pertaining to those areas of discussion.

Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick

Nays: None

Open session suspended at 6:54 PM.

Motion was made by Eric Blake, seconded by RJ Lindemann, to go out of closed session and back into open session.

Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac

Nays: None

Open session resumed at 8:19 PM.



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Mayor Kuhl announced that during closed session the council discussed municipal power.

13. ACTION AS RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. Consider and act on authorizing signatures for the Non-Disclosure Agreements with favorable electric power suppliers.

Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize signatures for the Non-Disclosure Agreements with favorable electric power suppliers.

Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright

Nays: None

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Submitted by:

Maggie E. McDonald, City Clerk