



UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. Van Buren St

Newton, IL 62448

December 1, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mark Bolander, Mayor
Mayor Mark Bolander called the meeting to order.
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, Eric Blake and Marlene Harris
Also present: Treasurer Melissa Brooks and Clerk Rosetta York
Absent: Robert Reisner and Attorney William Heap
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA: 7A correct to 20-16 and delete 7C
Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Brooks, to adopt the amended/proposed agenda.
Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris
Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of November 17, 2020.
Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Harris, to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2020 meeting of the Newton City Council.
Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris, Glumac
Nays: None
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS: None
7. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. Consider and act on Ordinance 20-16 Annual Tax Levy.
Motion was made by Brooks, seconded by Glumac, to pass Ordinance 20-16 Annual Tax Levy.
Ayes: Brooks, Harris, Glumac, Bolander
Nays: Blake, Brown
 - B. Consider and act on the Abatement Certificate for Aquatic Facility.
Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Harris, to authorize the Abatement Certificate for Aquatic Facility.
Ayes: Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks
Nays: None
 - ~~C. Consider and act on authorizing the renovation of City Hall.~~
 - D. Consider and act on TIF application for 507 W. Washington St.
Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Brown, to authorize TIF application from ARG Ideas, LLC for demo of 507 W. Washington St. of \$2,500 reimbursed when the paid receipts are presented.
Ayes: Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Blake
Nays: None
 - E. Consider and act on Pay Estimate #1 and final for Jackson St. and Washington St on the Square.
Motion was made by Brooks, seconded by Glumac, to authorize Pay Estimate #1 (which is the final pay estimate) for Jackson St. and Washington St on the Square for \$132,561.99.
Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris
Nays: None
8. NEW BUSINESS:
 - A. Consider and act on Symetra insurance rates
Motion was made by Harris, seconded by Glumac, to authorize Symetra insurance rate increase of 13.5% with terminal liability coverage.
Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris, Glumac
Nays: None
 - B. Consider and act on 2021 Newton City Council Meeting Schedule.
Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Glumac, to authorize 2021 Newton City Council Meeting Schedule.
Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown
Nays: None
9. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS: Insurance Committee 11-30-20 and JEDI 12-1-20
Harris-JEDI: Marlene Harris minutes from JEDI Zoom Meeting 12-1-2020
Amber Volk Executive Director.
 1. Stated she went to a virtual convention in Kansas City, Missouri, and learned a lot.
 2. Senior Living Center is going well and is showing a lot of construction as well as the Sara Bush Lincoln Center, and the FNB of Olney.
 3. The New West End Event Center is to have their 1st event on Dec 5.
 4. The 360* video is being worked on.

Mark Bolander City of Newton was absent Marlene Harris spoke for the City



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1. Stated the city is paying for the electric for the Christmas Lighting in Peterson Park as well as lighting of the Old River Bridge, and invited everyone to come and see them.

Ron Heltsley spoke for the County

2. Stated they are reorganizing the board officers tonight.
3. Jail project is coming along, and may have updates tomorrow.
4. Dec 10th is the next meeting.

Andy Johnson, Superintendent of Jasper County Schools

1. A public hearing will be Dec 8 at 6PM in the High School auditorium for the rezoning of the Sunrise building. They are going to try get this rezoned for school.
2. The numbers are up on quarantines.
3. Not going to close school if at all possible
4. Going to try to utilize snow days as remote learning days. State permitting
5. Seeking 2 bonds
6. They will be responding live to letter to the editor in the Effingham paper.
7. They are trying everything they can, to keep from raising property taxes.

Sara Kincade Chamber

1. Stoptober went well. December event is starting today. \$1000 in chamber bucks will be given out.
2. Holly Jolly will be different this year, due to issues with trade mark of Holly Jolly and Sam the Snowman.
3. Dec 8
 - a. Going to have a food truck on the square,
 - b. The brass band will be in Elite Fitness bldg. with the big door open.
 - c. Products will be sold by CEO students.
 - d. At 7PM there will be a cruise night. They will go to see lights at Old River Bridge, go through the Peterson Park, they will cruise to Willow Hill, Ste Marie and then come back to Newton.

Amber Wakefield Marketing

1. Newsletters are going out today.
2. Birthdays and anniversaries are being posted on marquee.
3. Jasper County tee shirts sales went well. Proceeds are going to for the Marketing committee.
4. Several people told her that they have been traveling to Newton from surrounding counties to see our Christmas lights.

Mindy Hartke Tourism

1. Over 300 vehicles went through the park to see the lights the first night.
2. Dec 5, 12, 19 the CEO class is sponsoring holiday theme movies at the Drive-In-Theater starting at 5PM.

Diane Scott stated a big thanks needed to be given to Mindy Hartke and her family for the work and decorations on the square.

Motion to adjour was made at 10:58 AM.

Harris-Insurance:

Discussed Symetra rate increase for 2021 without and with terminal liability coverage. Without is 5% increase and with is 13% increase. The committee recommends getting the terminal liability coverage. Adjourned at 5:52 PM.

10. STATEMENTS:

Council Members:

Glumac: She work this past weekend for Christmas Lights in Peterson Park. There were about 300 people who went through the Park. People came from as far as Morris, IL. It was really nice.

Brown: Thanks to the Hartkes, Leachmans, Huddlestons, Newton Electric Department and the Fire Department for all of their work on the lights at the Park and the Old River Bridge.

Brooks: The Christmas Lights looked nice.

Blake: He presented the Jasper County Animal Report.

Harris: The Christmas lights looked good.

City Treasurer: Presented an appropriation change

Motion was made by Brown, seconded by Brooks, to make the following appropriation change in the General Fund Cemetery, to move \$100 from Contingency Fund to Miscellaneous Expense.

Ayes: Blake, Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks

Nays: None

City Clerk: No comment

Mayor: No comment

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 t 6:00 PM

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

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

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 purchase



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of real estate pursuant to the exceptions section of the Open Meetings Act pertaining to those areas of discussion.

Ayes: Harris, Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Blake

Nays: None

Open session suspended at 6:25 PM

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

Ayes: Glumac, Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris

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 Brown, seconded by Glumac, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Brown, Brooks, Blake, Harris, Glumac

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

Submitted by Rosetta M. York