NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 5, 2026, 6:00 PM

Pledge

Pledge of Allegiance
Mayor Ervin asked everyone present to join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order

1. Roll Call
The City Council of Newton, Iowa met in regular session at 6:00 P.M. on the above date in the Council Chambers at 101 West 4th Street South. Mayor Ervin presided. Present Council Members: Mills, Roth, Dalton, Hallam, Simbro, Holschuh. Absent: None.

Presentation

2. Newton Rail Park Video
Mayor Ervin introduced the Rail Park video and mentioned the appointment of Chris Barton to serve on the Newton Rail Park Joint Development Committee.

Citizen Participation

3. There was no citizen participation.

Consent Agenda
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Hallam to approve consent agenda items 4-24. Moved by Dalton, seconded by Mills to pull items 15 and 20 from consent to discuss. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Items 15 and 20 were pulled from the consent agenda. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda was adopted.

4. December 15, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

5. December 15, 2025 Workshop Minutes

6. Approve Liquor Licenses for the following: Montana Mike's Steakhouse - LC0041393,1400 W 18th St S, Class C Retail Alcohol License renewal and Sombrero - LC0038865, 1130 1st Ave E, Class C Retail Alcohol License renewal

7. Designate January 19, 2026 as a public hearing date for the 1st Budget Amendment for Fiscal year 2025-2026

8. Resolution Appointing Chris Barton to serve on the "Newton Rail Park Joint Development Committee"
Resolution 2026-001 adopted.

9. Resolution Rescheduling the February 2, 2026 Regular Council Meeting to February 3, 2026
Resolution 2026-002 adopted.

10. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 26-01)
Resolution 2026-003 adopted.

11. Resolution approving an agreement with the Iowa Economic Development Authority for the FY26 Iowa Tourism Grant
Resolution 2026-004 adopted.

12. Resolution Approving the 2026 Independence Day Fireworks Proposal
Resolution 2026-005 adopted.

13. Resolution approving a contract from Midwest Inflatables, LLC for Newton Fest activities
Resolution 2026-006 adopted.

14. Resolution approving reduced prices on Maytag Pool single-day admissions for June 13, 2026
Resolution 2026-007 adopted.

15. Resolution approving remaining costs of the 2024 Streetscape Improvements Project
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Holschuh to adopt the Resolution. Mills announced that he would be abstaining due to his employment with Manatts. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. ABSTAINED: One. Resolution 2026-008 adopted.

16. Resolution approving a copier lease and service agreement for Utility Billing
Resolution 2026-009 adopted.

17. Resolution Approving a Property Tax Rebate for the CRH Properties LLC Property Located at 117 1st Ave W Within the North Central Urban Renewal Area
Resolution 2026-010 adopted.

18. Resolution approving a 28E agreement with the State of Iowa Department of Revenue Supporting the I-Pledge Tobacco, Alternative Nicotine, and Vapor Product Enforcement Program
Resolution 2026-011 adopted.

19. Resolution approving change order #1 for the 2025 HMA Alley Overlay Project
Resolution 2026-012 adopted.

20. Resolution approving CO #1 and accepting completion of the Public Works Community Development Wash Bay Project
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mills to adopt the Resolution. Public Works Director Joe Grife indicated the reason it was pulled out was due to a discrepancy in the funding sources. It was changed from Bonds to Road Use Tax AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-013 adopted.

21. Resolution amending the submission of a pre-application for Federal Airport Improvement Program funding and certifying eligibility requirements that was previously approved by Resolution 2025-458
Resolution 2026-014 adopted.

22. Resolution approving the letter of support for DMACC's T-Mobile Hometown Grant Application
Resolution 2026-015 adopted.

23. Resolution to provide free golf and pool passes for inclusion in the Newton Housing Development Corporation's (NHDC) 2026 Get to Know Newton Welcome Package
Resolution 2026-016 adopted.

24. Approve Bills

Ordinance

25. Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances, City of Newton, Iowa, 2025, Title XIII, Chapter 136, "Public Camping"
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Hallam to approve the first consideration of the Ordinance. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. First Consideration of the Ordinance was approved.

Resolution

26. Resolution approving quote for water storage reservoir suction pipe repairs
Moved by Roth, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-017 adopted.

27. Resolution authorizing the purchase of Water Meters and Radio Read End Points
Moved by Simbro, seconded by Holschuh to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-018 adopted.

28. Resolution Approving Assignment and Assumption of Workforce Housing Loan Program Documents by and among the City of Newton, Iowa, Hatch Development Group, LLC and the Iowa Finance Authority
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Mills to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Six. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-019 adopted.

Staff Report

29. Storm Water Utility Fee - Joe Grife, Public Works Director
Grife proposed an increase to the current fee, effective July 1, 2026, in order to solve additional stormwater issues that cause problems during heavy rains.

Mayor/Council Comments

30. Mayor and Council Comments
Hallam proclaimed, "Happy New Year." Mills welcomed the new council members. Toni Peska, a fellow classmate, asked Mayor Ervin to clarify that it's Randy Ervin, an Aurora Heights graduate. Ervin announced that we may have some difficult conversations, but he is not going to lie. He stated that making the city a success takes everyone working together, and we will have some challenges.

Adjourn

Moved by Dalton, seconded by Hallam to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Katrina Davis, City Clerk

~~Randy J. Ervin~~, Mayor Pro Tem
Melissa Dalton