NEWTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 17, 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: Roth (via telephone), Dalton (via telephone), Hallam, Simbro, Holschuh. Absent: Mills.

Presentation

2. Jasper County Conservation - Keri Van Zante, Director
   Keri provided an informative overview of the programs, facilities, and recreational opportunities available through Jasper County Conservation. She highlighted the many ways residents and visitors can enjoy and learn about the outdoors, including kayaking, hiking, hunting areas, nature play areas, and conservation activities. Keri also shared information about the department's Fall Fest and other community events, as well as classroom and educational programs that provide opportunities for children and families to learn about nature, wildlife, and conservation.

3. The Well - Dave Woodcock, Chief Ministry Officer
   Dave provided an overview of the mission and services. The Well is a community ministry focused on meeting people where they are, providing support and stability. Dave discussed the need for additional resources, including a resource center that would work directly with individuals to provide education, guidance, and long-term support. The Well's approach centers on support, stability, and shepherding. They plan to use the thrift store as a primary funding source for these services, with a goal of the store covering approximately 75% of its operating costs, with the remaining support coming through donations and the community. Dave also highlighted The Well's Work Program, which provides an onsite work environment where individuals can experience transformation through paid employment, education, and mentorship. The program is designed to help participants develop skills, stability, and a pathway toward greater independence.

Citizen Participation

4. Madeline Van Gorp, 911 E 8th St S asked questions and made statements about the Flock cameras in town.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Simbro, seconded by Hallam to approve consent agenda items 5-19. Moved by Holschuh, seconded by Hallam to pull and review Item 10. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Item 10 was pulled from the consent. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Consent Agenda items 5-9 & 11-19 were adopted. Moved by Holschuh, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution authorizing the filing of 657A.10A petition for 308 East 8thStreet North, Newton, Jasper County, Iowa. Chambers, Community Development Director, explained the 657A process. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-304 was adopted.

5. August 3, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
6. Resolution levying assessments for costs of nuisance abatement and providing for the payment thereof (Schedule 26-13)
   Resolution 2026-300 adopted.
7. Resolution fixing the amounts to be assessed against individual private properties for the abatement of nuisance violations (Schedule No. 26-14)
   Resolution 2026-301 adopted.
8. Resolution approving two permanent municipal utility easements located at 981 & 1001 W 22nd St S
   Resolution 2026-302 adopted.
9. Resolution accepting completion of the Westwood Golf Course Bridge Replacement and Repairs Project
   Resolution 2026-303 adopted.
10. Resolution authorizing the filing of 657A.10A petition for 308 East 8th Street North, Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
    Resolution 2026-304 adopted.

11. Resolution entering into agreement for pest control services for Westwood Clubhouse
Resolution 2026-305 adopted.

12. Resolution approving and authorizing submittal docs for City's Community Development Grant to Iowa Economic Development Authority
Resolution 2026-306 adopted.

13. Resolution awarding Water Treatment Plant Clarifier Bearing Repair Project to Vessco Inc.
Resolution 2026-307 adopted.

14. Resolution Authorizing the City of Newton and the Newton Fire Department to Enter into a 28E Agreement for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Transportation with City of Baxter and Baxter Rescue Squad.
Resolution 2026-308 adopted.

15. Resolution accepting completion for the City of Newton Public Safety Storage Building Project
Resolution 2026-309 adopted.

16. Resolution approving inter-departmental purchase of Wheel Loader from Water Pollution Control to Community Development
Resolution 2026-310 adopted.

17. Resolution approving the Amended Grant Agreement for the building at 107 1st Avenue West
Resolution 2026-311 adopted.

18. Resolution setting a public hearing for sale of 827 East 8th Street South, Newton, Jasper County, Iowa
Resolution 2026-312 adopted.

19. Approve Bills

Public Hearing

20. Public Hearing on a resolution awarding contract for the 1st Ave E and E 12th St Drainage Improvements Phase 2 Project
Mayor Ervin stated that this is the time and place for a Public Hearing on the above Resolution. There were no written comments. Moved by Hallam, seconded by Holschuh to close the public hearing. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. The public hearing was closed.

21. Resolution awarding contract for the 1st Ave E and E 12th St Drainage Improvements Phase 2 Project
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-313 adopted.

Resolution

22. Resolution Awarding a contract for the Construction of Cardinal Pond Phase II improvement project
Moved by Hallam, seconded by Roth to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-314 adopted.

23. Resolution approving Athletic Court/Field Use Agreement with Newton Area Pickleball and Tennis Association
Moved by Simbro, seconded by Holschuh to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-315 adopted.

24. Resolution approving the Fastpitch SB Complex Minor Plat 1
Moved by Dalton, seconded by Simbro to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-316 adopted.

25. Resolution amending the Vacant Building Policy to establish City Council as the Appeals Body in lieu of the Building Trades Board
Moved by Holschuh, seconded by Hallam to adopt the Resolution. AYES: Five. NAYS: None. Resolution 2026-317 adopted.

Mayor/Council Comments

26. Mayor and Council Comments
Roth spoke about her surgery and asked for prayers. Mayor Ervin presented good news from Main Street indicating that some of our businesses will be getting rewards, and we will host the Main Street convention here in Newton. We had a fantastic NASCAR event. Things are progressing well with Fast Pitch. Football season is here.

Adjourn

Moved by Holschuh, seconded by Roth to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 P.M. Motion unanimously carried by voice vote.

Katrina Davis, City Clerk

Randy J. Ervin, Mayor

