



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL

108 N. VAN BUREN St.

NEWTON, IL 62448

November 19, 2024

- **Public Hearing to Vacate the Alley running North and South between Lots 6 & 7 in Block 8 of the Original Plat of Town in the City of Newton on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 5:30 PM.**
- 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 Alderman Kaleb Wright.
Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Alderman Kaleb Wright.
- 3. ROLL CALL: Maggie McDonald, City Clerk
Physically present: Gayle Glumac, Kaleb Wright, Larry Brooks, RJ Lindemann and Mike Swick
Also present: Attorney William Heap, Treasurer Melissa Brooks and City Clerk Maggie McDonald
Absent: Alderman Eric Blake
- 4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA:
Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to adopt the proposed agenda.
Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Swick
Nays: None
- 5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of November 5, 2024.
Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by RJ Lindemann, to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2024 meeting of the Newton City Council.
Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Swick, Glumac
Nays: None
- 6. APPROVAL OF BILLS & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:
Alderman Lindemann reviewed the pre-paids in the amount of \$500,645.55 and the bills and accounts payable earlier today and makes a motion to approve the pre-paids and authorize payment of the bills and accounts payable in the amount of \$129,357.16. Kaleb Wright seconded the motion.
Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Swick, Glumac, Wright
Nays: None
- 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: **Jo Gribben:** There is an organization in town feeding stray cats. Ms. Gribben does not have a problem they are feeding the cats, but with this it is bringing other nuisance pests to the neighborhood. Raccoons, skunks, possums, etc. Alderman Glumac did inform it is illegal for the group to trap nuisance animals on private property, so they would not be able to trap the pests. She did say she would ask the group to please lessen the amount of food they are giving and only feed the cats during day time hours. Ms. Gribben will report to Alderman Lindemann with an update of how the changes are working.
- 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:
 - Police and Building Permit Committee on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Police and Building Permit Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

1. Discuss building permits

a. The committee discussed building permits; one case was the Sarah Bush fence installation. This installation took place before the permit was issued to them and was put closer to a water meter than the water department head recommends. The committee advised the city clerk to send an email informing Sarah Bush of these violations and that in the event the fence must be moved for repairs the city will not be liable for repairs or replacement.

2. Go into Executive Session to discuss personnel

a. Mike Swick made the motion to go into executive session, Eric Blake seconds

b. Mike Swick made the motion to go out of executive session where the committee discussed personnel, Gayle Glumac seconds.

- Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm



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- Submitted by:
- **Kaleb Wright – Chairman**

- Finance and Audit Committee Meeting on Monday, November 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

Finance/Audit Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, November 18, 2024 6:00 PM – 6:14 PM

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM.

- A TIF application for Harvest Biofuels was discussed. It was recommended by the committee to approve the application for a total of \$2,125,024.00 to be reimbursed yearly based on the incremental tax increase, contingent on completion of the project.
- A TIF application for St. Pierre Oil was discussed. It was recommended by the committee to approve the application for a total of \$420.00.

Meeting adjourned at 6:14 PM.

Those in attendance: **RJ Lindemann – Chairman**, Larry Brooks, Gayle Glumac, Joshua Kuhl, Mike Swick, Maggie McDonald and Melissa Brooks

9. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Consider and act on passing Ordinance 24-16 Vacating the Alley Running North and South between Lots 6 & 7 in Block 8 of the Original Town Subdivision in the City of Newton.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Kaleb Wright to pass Ordinance 24-16 Vacating the Alley Running North and South between Lots 6 & 7 in Block 8 of the Original Town Subdivision in the City of Newton.

Ayes: Lindemann, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

- B. Consider and act on authorizing an Agreement with IDOT and the Indiana Rail Road for Railway-Highway Grade Crossing Improvements on S. 1st Ave., Sycamore St. and West End Ave.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to table authorizing an Agreement with IDOT and the Indiana Rail Road for Railway-Highway Grade Crossing Improvements on S. 1st Ave., Sycamore St. and West End Ave. to the January 21, 2025 meeting of the Newton City Council.

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann

Nays: None

- C. Consider and act on authorizing TIF Application submitted by St. Pierre Oil Co.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Larry Brooks, to authorize the TIF application submitted by St. Pierre Oil Co. in the amount of \$420.00 as recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee.

Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Swick

Nays: None

- D. Consider and act on authorizing TIF Application submitted by Harvest Biofuels Inc.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Mike Swick, to authorize the TIF Application submitted by Harvest Biofuels Inc. for 15% of the project cost, making the awarded amount up to \$2,125,024.00, to be reimbursed yearly based on the incremental tax increase after completion of the project, as recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee.

Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Swick, Glumac

Abstain: Wright



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Nays: None

- E. Consider and act on authorizing pay request #1 to Hoerr Construction, Inc., for Sewer, in the amount of \$66,762.00 for sewer relining repairs.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize pay request #1 to Hoerr Construction, Inc., as Sewer Department expense, in the amount of \$66,762.00 for sewer relining repairs.

Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Swick, Glumac, Wright

Nays: None

- F. Consider and act on authorizing pay request #1 to Hoerr Construction, Inc., for Street, in the amount of \$77,036.60 for sewer relining repairs.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac to authorize pay request #1 to Hoerr Construction, Inc. as Street Department expense, in the amount of \$77,036.60 for storm sewer relining repairs.

Ayes: Lindemann, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Consider and act on authorizing Power Purchasing Contract with most favorable power supplier.

Motion was made by Gayle Glumac, seconded by RJ Lindemann, to table authorizing a Power Purchasing Agreement with the most favorable power supplier to the December 3, 2024 meeting of the Newton City Council.

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann

Nays: None

- B. Consider and act on authorizing Christmas bonuses for all current full-time and part-time employees who have worked at least 3 months and are currently working. Consists of an extra eight hours pay or an eight-hour day off with pay, to be taken by the last pay period in April 2025.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize Christmas bonuses for all current full time and part time employees who have worked at least 3 months and are currently working. Consists of an extra eight hours pay or an eight hour day off with pay, to be taken by the last pay period in April 2025.

Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Swick

Nays: None

- C. Consider and act on authorizing the 2025 Newton City Council Meeting Schedule.

Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Gayle Glumac to authorize the 2025 Newton City Council Meeting Schedule.

Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Swick, Glumac

Nays: None

- D. Consider and act on authorizing city employee and council Christmas gathering.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize a city employee and council Christmas gathering on January 31, 2025 at West End Reception and Events from 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM.

Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Swick

Nays: None

- E. Consider and act on authorizing the Massey Wedding Special Event Application for Saturday, December 28, 2024 at the Old Mill Bridge.



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Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize the Massey Wedding Special Event Application for Saturday, December 28, 2024 at the Old Mill Bridge from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM.

Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Swick, Glumac

Nays: None

11. STATEMENTS BY:

Glumac: Happy Thanksgiving. Stay safe and enjoy your family and friends.

Wright: Happy Thanksgiving. Hope most people were happy with the presidential election.

Brooks: Happy Thanksgiving.

Lindemann: Give thanks. Presented the utility adjustments. Apologized to his voters he was not present at the last council meeting. Voiced opposition to the Capital Development Fund.

Swick: Wished everyone a thankful and blessed Thanksgiving.

City Attorney: Eat lots and take a nap.

City Treasurer: Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

City Clerk: Happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor: Christmas Lights in the Park are up and running. The lights are something this community really enjoys, so thank you to Matt and all involved with setting up and having this ready before Thanksgiving. Thank you to the Newton Police Department for the way you handled the First Amendment Auditors last week. Congratulations and best wishes to Ben Bollman as he steps down after serving six years on our county board. As always, thank you to all city employees. We would not be able to keep this community going without all of you. Wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy your time spent with family and friends.

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: December 3, 2024 at 6:00 PM

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: None

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Municipal Power, Personnel, Potential Litigation, Purchase of Real Estate and Sale of Real Estate

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to go out of open session and into closed session to discuss Municipal Power, Personnel, Potential Litigation, Purchase of Real Estate and Sale of Real Estate pursuant to the exceptions section of the Open Meetings Act pertaining to those areas of discussion.

Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Swick, Glumac, Wright

Nays: None

Open session suspended at 6:36 PM.

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

Ayes: Lindemann, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

Open session resumed at 7:35 PM.

Mayor Kuhl announced that during closed session the council discussed Municipal Power, Personnel, Potential Litigation, Purchase of Real Estate and Sale of Real Estate.

14. ADJOURNMENT:



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Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 PM.

Submitted by:

Maggie McDonald, City Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maggie McDonald". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.