



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
108 N. VAN BUREN St.
NEWTON, IL 62448
June 16, 2026

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 Mike Swick
Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Alderman Mike Swick
3. ROLL CALL: Maggie McDonald, City Clerk
Physically present: Kaleb Wright, Larry Brooks, RJ Lindemann, Eric Blake and Mike Swick
Also present: Attorney William Heap, Treasurer Melissa Brooks and City Clerk Maggie McDonald
Absent: Alderman Gayle Glumac
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA: Amend: Add Personnel and Potential Litigation to Executive Session.
Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to adopt the amended agenda. Add Personnel and Potential Litigation to Executive Session.
Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick
Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of June 2, 2026.
Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by RJ Lindemann, to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2026 meeting of the Newton City Council.
Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Swick
Nays: None
Abstain: Blake, Wright
6. APPROVAL OF BILLS & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:
Alderman Lindemann reviewed the pre-pays in the amount of \$57,710.11 and the bills and accounts payable earlier today and makes a motion to approve the pre-pays and authorize payment of the bills and accounts payable in the amount of \$227,780.82. Larry Brooks seconded the motion.
Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Wright, Brooks
Nays: None
7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: **None**
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:
 - Water/Wastewater Committee Meeting on Monday, June 15, 2026 at 5:30 PM.

Water and Waste Water Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, June 15, 2026 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Attendees: Mike Swick, Joshua Kuhl, Maggie McDonald, Kaleb Wright, Larry Brooks, Eric Blake, Melissa Brooks, Jennifer Holland, Scott Rubsam and Adam Painter
Meeting began at 5:30 PM.

- The sewer service line connection at 309 Lafayette Street was discussed. Scott will oversee and monitor the installation process to ensure the connection is completed properly and in compliance with City requirements.
 - Jennifer provided an update on the water treatment plant's filter media. Significant differences in the color of the backwash have been observed, indicating the need for further evaluation. The existing filter media system is approximately 15 years old, and staff will explore options for replacing the seals or undertaking a complete replacement of all three filters.
 - Jennifer will coordinate and develop a schedule for hydrant flushing.
 - A recent fluoride and chlorine leak at the water treatment plant was detected. Repairs have been completed, and the issue has been resolved.
- 5:45 PM Adam Painter leaves the meeting.
- Eric Blake makes a motion to go into executive session. Kaleb Wright seconds the motion.
- 7:22 PM
- Eric Blake makes a motion to go out of executive session and back into open session. Mike Swick seconds the motion.
 - Jennifer had questions regarding the upcoming water main project near Hutton Drive and Homestead. She will coordinate with the engineer to review the plans and address any concerns prior to construction.



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- Jennifer had also questioned the hydrogen tank alarm. It was discovered that the alarm had been bypassed at some point in the past. The cause of the bypass is unknown; however, corrective action will be taken to restore the alarm to proper working order.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Submitted by: **Mike Swick - Chairman**

9. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Consider and act on passing Ordinance 26-07 Ordinance to Condemn an Unsafe and Dangerous Building at 205 E. Harris St.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by RJ Lindemann, to pass Ordinance 26-07 Ordinance to Condemn an Unsafe and Dangerous Building at 205 E. Harris St.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann

Nays: None

- B. Consider and act on authorizing an asbestos inspection and to seek bids for the demolition project at 805 Foster.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize an asbestos inspection and to seek bids for the demolition project at 805 Foster.

Ayes: Swick, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake

Nays: None

- C. Consider and act on authorizing to hire a Water Plant Operator.

Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Mike Swick, to authorize the hire of Alex Wagner as a Water Plant Operator, with a start date of July 14, 2026.

Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick

Nays: None

- D. Consider and act on authorizing to hire a Wastewater Plant Operator.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Larry Brooks, to authorize the hire of Jacob Lindemann as a Wastewater Plant Operator, with a start date of July 13, 2026.

Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Wright

Nays: None

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discuss Telecommunications Tax.

A question recently arose regarding the City's telecommunications tax rate. The Illinois Department of Revenue reports that the City currently receives a 1% telecommunications tax, while the City of Newton Municipal Code references a 6% rate. To ensure accuracy and consistency, the City will be updating its Municipal Code to reflect the current 1% telecommunications tax rate administered through the State.

- B. Consider and act on authorizing the Special Event Application submitted by Peoples State Bank for their Annual Customer Appreciation Free Ice Cream Social on Thursday, July 2, 2026 from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by RJ Lindemann, to authorize the Special Event Application submitted by Peoples State Bank for their Annual Customer Appreciation Free Ice Cream Social on Thursday, July 2, 2026 from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM.

Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

11. STATEMENTS BY:

Wright: Called a Police and Building Permit Committee Meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

Brooks: Glad we were able to obtain good candidates and were successful getting new hires in our Water and Wastewater Departments.



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Lindemann: Called a Finance and Audit Committee Meeting on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 5:30 PM.

Encouraged everyone to enjoy the upcoming fair week.

Presented the utility adjustments.

Voiced opposition to the Capital Development Fund.

Blake: No comments.

Swick: Thanked all the city departments for their teamwork and all pulling together to get things done.

Many events and activities happening around town this weekend, including food, music, and other festivities. Encourage everyone to check it out.

Congratulations Parklanes on their upcoming opening. The community is excited to welcome them!

Wish all the fathers and grandfathers a very Happy Father's Day.

City Attorney: No comments.

City Treasurer: Extended Father's Day wishes to all fathers.

Reported that the City's auditors were on-site the previous week. Updates will be provided to the Council as information becomes available.

City Clerk: 2 PO's

1. Wastewater Department PO#11 to Vandevanter Engineering for a new Square D Motor, the labor and install for a total amount of \$5,421.80.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by RJ Lindemann, to authorize the Wastewater Department PO#11 to Vandevanter Engineering for a new Square D Motor, the labor and install for a total amount of \$5,421.80.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann

Nays: None

2. Park Department PO#6397 to Midwest Tractor to fix the front axle seal and rear motor seal on the New Holland TL 260 tractor in the amount of \$3,500.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize the Park Department PO#6397 to Midwest Tractor to fix the front axle seal and rear motor seal on the New Holland TL 260 tractor in the amount of \$3,500.

Ayes: Swick, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake

Nays: None

Mayor: Echo Alderman Swick on congratulating Parklanes on their grand opening June 22! Parklanes will now be open for breakfast and lunch on Sundays, which I know will be great in this community.

Lots of activities taking place throughout the weekend. Reminded everyone the fair begins on Sunday, June 21. Encourage community members to attend and support these community events.

Happy Fathers Day!

As always, thank you to all our city employees for your hard work, and also thank you to our summer help. Have heard nothing but good things, so we are grateful to find someone to fill that role.

Lastly, I want to wish America a Happy 250th Birthday! This is a big one for our country and I hope everyone has a safe and Happy 4th of July.

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: **July 7, 2026 at 6:00 PM**

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

- Police and Building Permit Committee Meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 6:00 PM.
- Finance and Audit Committee Meeting on Tuesday, July 7, 2026 at 5:30 PM.



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13. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to go out of open session and into closed session to discuss personnel and potential litigation pursuant to the exceptions section of the Open Meetings Act pertaining to those areas of discussion.

Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick

Nays: None

Open session suspended at 6:30 PM.

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

Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Wright

Nays: None

Open session resumed at 7:08 PM.

Mayor Kuhl announced that during closed session the council discussed personnel and potential litigation.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Eric Blake, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 PM.

Submitted by:

Maggie McDonald

City Clerk

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE June 17, 2026

BAT

Jasper County Health Dept.

\$120.00
Total Bat \$120.00

GOLF

Jasper County Health Dept.

\$120.00
Total Golf \$120.00

STREET

Arab
Bradford Supply Company
Card Service Center
Column Software PBC
Illinois Codification Services
Kirchner Building Centers
Midwest Tractor Sales
Newton Part Supply, Inc.
Wabash Valley Service Co.

\$50.00
\$1,531.02
\$82.45
\$114.12
\$40.21
\$133.44
\$592.65
\$197.75
\$357.31
Total Street \$3,098.95

POLICE

Arab
Axon Enterprises, Inc.
Birch Auto Service & Towing
Card Service Center
Cardio Partners
Cintas
Cintas Corp.
County of Jasper
Effingham Daily News
Mike Fischer
Hometown Register
Illinois Codification Services
Jasper County Health Dept.
Kemper Technology Consulting
McClane Motor Sales, Inc.
Kelsey Muska
Kim Muska
Myron Operations
Ray O'Herron
P.F. Pettibone & Co.
Premier Broadcasting, Inc.
Wabash Valley Service Co.
Weber, Heap, Ayres & Greene, P.C.
WIKK

\$30.00
\$6,657.69
\$322.00
\$82.99
\$69.00
\$82.14
\$245.18
\$8,650.33
\$325.20
\$375.00
\$276.00
\$40.21
\$108.00
\$1,522.00
\$88.50
\$350.00
\$350.00
\$327.50
\$555.95
\$22.00
\$1,716.00
\$1,720.52
\$1,956.00
\$420.00
Total Police \$26,292.21

CEMETERY

Denny Noblit Mowing

\$3,750.00
Total Cemetery \$3,750.00

PARK

Birch Auto Service & Towing
Illinois Codification Services
Steve Jones Plumbing & Hardware
Kirchner Building Centers
Newton Part Supply, Inc.
Denny Noblit Mowing
Wabash Valley Service Co.

\$196.50
\$40.21
\$21.84
\$48.26
\$55.96
\$2,550.00
\$191.82
Total Park \$3,104.59

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Arab
Card Service Center
Caselle, LLC.
Column Software PBC
Illinois Codification Services
Kemper Technology Consulting
Kirchner Building Centers

\$30.00
\$644.22
\$539.10
\$39.10
\$40.21
\$2,200.00
\$15.98

Kelsey Muska	\$350.00
Kim Muska	\$350.00
Weber, Heap, Ayres & Greene, P.C.	\$162.50
Total General Administration	\$4,371.11

POOL

Arab	\$30.00
Card Service Center	\$923.15
Cardio Partners	\$274.00
Central-Cigar Candy Co.	\$889.25
CJ's Performance & Access.	\$1,256.65
Hawkins, Inc.	\$2,497.67
Heartland Coca-Cola Bottling Co.	\$652.17
Helm Mechanical	\$4,000.00
Jasper County Health Dept.	\$920.00
Steve Jones Plumbing & Hardware	\$1,668.78
Kim's Ice Cream, LLC.	\$1,674.00
Kirchner Building Centers	\$18.62
Kohl Wholesale	\$1,392.65
Lorenz Supply Co.	\$207.80
Newton Foods	\$51.33
Newton Part Supply, Inc.	\$12.60
Pump Repair Specialist, Inc.	\$449.07
RecSupply	\$1,785.14
Sherwin-Williams Co.	\$2,462.42
Sycamore Engineering	\$406.00
Tri-M Plumbing	\$878.99
Total Pool	\$22,450.29

TOTAL GENERAL FUNDS	\$63,307.15
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CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

Anixter, Inc.	\$352.31
Jasper County CEO	\$1,000.00
Weber, Heap, Ayres & Greene, P.C.	\$576.00
Total Capital Development	\$1,928.31

TIF

Weber, Heap, Ayres & Greene, P.C.	\$490.00
Total TIF	\$490.00

TOTAL SPECIALS	\$2,418.31
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ELECTRIC

Anixter, Inc.	\$8,039.44
Arab	\$50.00
Brownstown Electric Supply	\$37,994.00
Card Service Center	\$387.89
Cardio Partners	\$205.00
Caselle, LLC.	\$539.10
Echo Electric	\$1,139.10
Equip-It, Inc.	\$57.23
Fletcher-Reinhardt Company	\$14,437.15
4 Ping Trucking, Inc.	\$2,142.78
Grainger	\$42.44
Illinois Codification	\$40.22
Jasper Clothiers	\$199.75
Steve Jones Plumbing & Hardware	\$10.24
JM Test Systems	\$48.75
SD Myers LLC.	\$3,968.00
Newton Part Supply, Inc.	\$496.55
Online Information Services	\$18.88
Sloan Implement Company, Inc.	\$121.28
Stone & Waggoner Consulting Engineers	\$2,368.65
UUS-United Utility Supply	\$19,008.00
Vision Metering Solutions, LLC.	\$600.00
Wabash Valley Service Co.	\$1,247.40
Weber, Heap, Ayres & Greene, P.C.	\$408.00
TOTAL ELECTRIC	\$93,569.85

WATER

Aqua Ops	\$800.00
Birch Auto Service & Towing	\$204.95
Caselle, LLC.	\$539.10
Cowden Medical Group	\$75.00
Hawkins & Company	\$41,968.24
Hach Company	\$217.82
Hawkins, Inc.	\$525.35
Illinois Codification Services	\$40.22
Illinois Rural Water Assoc.	\$322.20
IMCO Utility Supply Co.	\$1,799.00
Jasper Clothiers	\$125.00
Jasper County Health Dept.	\$108.00
Midwest Meter, Inc.	\$371.00
Online Information Services	\$18.88
Stone & Waggoner Consulting Engineers	\$7,983.37
Wabash Valley Service Co.	\$219.80
TOTAL WATER	\$55,317.93

<u>WWT</u>	
Aquafix	\$1,497.11
Arab	\$35.00
Bradford Supply Co.	\$5,057.60
Card Service Center	\$149.43
Cardio Partners	\$274.00
Caselle, LLC.	\$539.09
Hawkins, Inc.	\$3,035.70
Illinois Codification Services	\$40.22
Illinois Rural Water Assoc.	\$322.20
Jasper Clothiers	\$220.90
Steve Jones Plumbing & Hardware	\$46.73
Kirchner Building Centers	\$41.57
Midwest Tractor Sales	\$496.68
Newton Part Supply, Inc.	\$656.17
Online Information Services	\$18.88
Wabash Valley Service Co.	\$280.30
Weber, Heap, Ayres, Greene, P.C.	\$456.00
TOTAL WWT	\$13,167.58

TOTAL PAYABLES = **\$227,780.82**

General Fund

Petty Cash Pool	\$575.00
Ameren Illinois	\$1,276.86
Amy Tarr	\$31.61
Kohl Wholesale	\$1,482.02
Gayle Glumac	\$72.92
AT & T Mobility	\$256.97
MCC Network Services LLC	\$1,115.93
Purchase Power	\$253.69
Verizon Wireless	\$108.03
City of Newton	\$322.42
Tractor Supply Credit Plan	\$774.81
Greg Coker	\$91.46
Justin Holmes	\$13.58
Sandy Dhom-reimburse gas citizen	\$80.00
	<u>\$6,455.30</u>

Payroll

State Disbursement Unit-Greg Coker	\$86.76
Standard Insurance Company Life	\$254.80
AFLAC	\$1,095.78
	<u>\$1,437.34</u>

Insurance A

Standard Insurance Company-Life	\$167.44
	<u>\$167.44</u>

Specials

IL Environmental Protection Agency	\$150.00
Luminare Health Benefits	\$2,776.14
City of Newton	\$0.93
Symetra Life Insurance Company	\$33,907.00
	<u>\$36,834.07</u>

MFT

\$0.00

TIF

\$0.00

Electric

Ameren Illinois	\$99.99
Norris Electric Cooperative	\$135.25
Newton Post Office	\$207.33
City of Newton	\$689.19
MCC Network Services LLC	\$116.19
Purchase Power	\$253.69
Verizon Wireless	\$144.06
Jasper County Clerk-Filing Fee Easement	\$405.00
	<u>\$2,050.70</u>

Water

Ameren Illinois	\$115.14
Newton Post Office	\$207.32
City of Newton	\$2,471.79
MCC Network Services LLC	\$116.19
Purchase Power	\$253.69
Verizon Wireless	\$36.01
	<u>\$3,200.14</u>

Wastewater

Ameren Illinois	\$121.80
Newton Post Office	\$207.32
City of Newton	\$6,776.76
MCC Network Services LLC	\$116.19
Purchase Power	\$253.68
Verizon Wireless	\$85.38
Tractor Supply Credit Plan	\$3.99
	<u>\$7,565.12</u>

Total Prepays = \$57,710.11