UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
108 N. VAN BUREN St.
NEWTON, IL 62448
November 4, 2026

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Joshua J. Kuhl
   Mayor Joshua J. Kuhl called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Alderman Larry Brooks
   Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Alderman Larry Brooks
3. ROLL CALL: Maggie McDonald, City Clerk
   Physically present: Gayle Glumac, Kaleb Wright, Larry Brooks, RJ Lindemann, Eric Blake and Mike Swick
   Also present: City Clerk Maggie McDonald
   Absent: City Attorney William Heap and Treasurer Melissa Brooks
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA: AMEND: Add Jennifer Hinterscher to Public Comments and Purchase of Real Estate to Executive Session.
   Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to adopt the amended agenda.
   Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick
   Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of October 20, 2026.
   Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2026 meeting of the Newton City Council.
   Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Swick, Glumac
   Nays: None
   Abstain: Lindemann, Blake
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS: **Jennifer Hinterscher:** Jennifer Hinterscher introduced herself as the new Chamber of Commerce Director and provided her contact information. She announced that the Evening Lighted Christmas Parade is planned for December 12, 2026, and inquired about the city's procedures for the event. Jennifer will work with the city clerk to ensure all necessary information and documentation are submitted. The city welcomes Jennifer to her new position.
7. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:
   - Electric Committee Meeting on Wednesday, October 28, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Electric Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 28, 2026 6:00 PM – 8:23 PM
Present: Gayle Glumac, Larry Brooks, RJ Lindemann, Mike Swick, Joshua Kuhl, Eric Blake, Maggie McDonald, Amy Tarr, Brenda Phillips, Matt Tarr, Raymond Reynolds, Tim Huber and Luke Johnson
Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

- The City Council continued discussions with Norris Electric regarding the potential sale of the Newton Electric Department. No decisions were reached, as the Council needs additional time to review the financials and consider its options. Maintenance responsibilities and shared service agreements were also discussed.

Tim Huber and Luke Johnson left the meeting at 6:58 PM.

- The committee began discussions with Ameren last week regarding the city's Wholesale Distribution System and proposed new charges. Additional discussions will be held.

- The Council reviewed the proposed Small Wireless Distribution Service Ordinance. Revisions to the language will be made in preparation for a future vote.
- Matt discussed quotes for proposed work in the Industrial Park.
- Matt will coordinate with the engineers to discuss future lighting improvements on the Square following construction of the courthouse.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.
Submitted by: **Gayle Glumac – Chairman**

8. OLD BUSINESS:
   A. Consider and act on authorizing the Dumpster Reimbursement Application submitted for 506 Liberty for reimbursement in the amount of $6,125, as recommended by majority of the Finance and Audit Committee.
   Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize the Dumpster Reimbursement Application submitted for 506 Liberty for reimbursement in the amount of $6,125, as recommended by majority of the Finance and Audit Committee.
   Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright
   Nays: Lindemann
9. NEW BUSINESS:
   A. Consider and act on authorizing to participate in the EPA Community Water Supply Testing Program in the amount of $3,548.85.
   Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize participation in the EPA Community Water Supply Testing Program in the amount of $3,548.85.
   Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks
   Nays: None
   B. Consider and act on authorizing flu shots for all part-time and full-time city employees.
   Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Larry Brooks, to authorize flu shots for all part-time and full-time city employees.
   Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann
   Nays: None
   C. Consider and act on authorizing a Special Event Liquor License for St. Thomas to host a Trivia Night Fund Raiser Event to be held on Saturday, February 13, 2027 from 5:00 PM – 12:00 AM.
   Motion was made by Eric Blake, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize a Special Event Liquor License for St. Thomas to host a Trivia Night Fund Raiser Event to be held on Saturday, February 13, 2027 from 5:00 PM – 12:00 AM.
   Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake
   Nays: None

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10. STATEMENTS BY:

Glumac: Thanked all the city employees for their work getting Lights in the Park up. Thank you to our Park and Water Departments for getting the rock down and fountain installed at our pickleball courts.
What a game for our Newton Eagles last Friday! Wish them good luck this Friday!
Wright: Great game Friday night, good luck this Friday Eagles!
Brooks: Good luck Friday night, Eagles!
Lindemann: Congratulations to the Newton Eagles, good luck this Friday in Johnston City!
In the absence of our Treasurer Melissa Brooks, I will present the tax levy statement. "The Treasurer's office has determined that the city would need to levy $751,180 for the tax year 2026. The amount to be levied will not exceed the 2025 tax year levy extended by more than 5%."
Congratulations to everyone in our local elections. Expressed dissatisfaction to the state and national election results.
Voiced opposition to the Capital Development Fund.
Blake: No comments.
Swick: Good luck to our Newton Eagles on Friday!
City Engineer John Stone was present and gave an update for the Hickory Drive Storm Culvert Replacement Project. Stone reported we are waiting on the state as of right now. We have received our environmental inspection back, still waiting on the cultural inspection. He will continue to check weekly with them on the status. Once those are received, we can submit plans for review. He has been in contact with the Water and Sewer Departments about running temporary lines while the project is under construction. We are still hopeful to get bids advertised by the end of the year.
City Clerk: 1 PO for Water Department

1. Water Department PO#2613 to Midwest Meter for 4" inch repair clamps needed for watermain repairs in the amount of $2,525. (This is to replace inventory used this past year.)
   Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize the Water Department PO#2613 to Midwest Meter for 4" inch repair clamps needed for watermain repairs in the amount of $2,525. (This is to replace inventory used this past year.)
   Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick
   Nays: None

So proud of all our Newton Eagles! Our kids have been so exciting to watch, win or lose, they have all played their hearts out! Go Eagles!
Mayor: Congratulations to our local election winners.

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Thank you to our city departments for all their hard work over the past week preparing Lights in the Park as we welcome the Christmas season. Leaf pickup has also begun. Please rake your leaves as close to the road as possible and contact City Hall to request pickup.

Last Friday night was, without a doubt, one of the best football games I have ever watched. I have never heard Chizevsky Field so loud, or so quiet, as everyone supported our own following an injury after victory. Congratulations to our Eagles on an incredible win, and best of luck this Friday in Johnston City. Go Eagles!

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: **November 17, 2026 at 6:00 PM**
    SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: **None**
12. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

    Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to go out of open session and into closed session to discuss purchase of real estate pursuant to the exceptions section of the Open Meetings Act pertaining to those areas of discussion.

    Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac

    Nays: None

Open session suspended at 6:18 PM.

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

Ayes: Brooks, Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright

Nays: None

Open session resumed at 6:35 PM.

Mayor Kuhl announced that during closed session the council discussed purchase of real estate.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

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

    Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks

    Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM.

Submitted by:
Maggie McDonald
City Clerk