



UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
108 N. VAN BUREN St.
NEWTON, IL 62448
March 18, 2026

- **Water and Wastewater Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 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 Mike Swick
Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Alderman Mike Swick
3. ROLL CALL: Maggie McDonald, City Clerk
Physically present: Gayle Glumac, RJ Lindemann, Eric Blake and Mike Swick
Also present: Attorney William Heap, Treasurer Melissa Brooks and City Clerk Maggie McDonald
Absent: Alderman Kaleb Wright and Alderman Larry Brooks
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA:
Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to adopt the proposed agenda.
Ayes: Glumac, Lindemann, Blake, Swick
Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of March 3, 2026.
Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2026 meeting of the Newton City Council.
Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac
Nays: None
6. APPROVAL OF BILLS & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:
Alderman Lindemann reviewed the pre-paids in the amount of \$64,907.16 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 \$285,716.26. Mike Swick seconded the motion.
Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Lindemann
Nays: None
7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: **None**
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

- **Electric Committee Meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 6:00 PM.**

Electric Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 10, 2026 6:00 PM – 7:11 PM

Present: Gayle Glumac, Kaleb Wright, RJ Lindemann, Erick Blake, Mike Swick, Melissa Brooks, Maggie McDonald, Joshua Kuhl and Matt Tarr

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

- The committee recommended to refuse all the bids that were submitted for the Electric Line D Circuit Project, as none of the bids contained the correct BABA Compliance documents. We will be resoliciting bids for the project.



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- Matt is continuing to research and conversate with different energy attorneys to see what legal counsel they can offer the city.
- Frontier has made revisions to our submitted Joint Pole Use Agreement. We will be reviewing and making changes as seen fit.

Mike Swick arrived at 6:16 PM.

- Matt met with the engineers and architects about the courthouse. They discussed future lighting plans for the new build.
- Frontier will be removing a pole and replacing it with a new one at 102 W. Marion.
- A shift in the PCA (Power Cost Adjustment) was discussed. This would help the billing structure. This is not a revenue increase nor an electric rate increase.
- Matt checked on regulations regarding first aid kits. We have to keep them in the departments, readily available, and checked monthly.
- There was a discrepancy with the city's cost match portion to the Grid Resilience Grant 40101(d) we approved to apply for at the last council meeting. Due to the increase in matching funds, and future budgetary items, the recommendation of the committee was to not apply for said grant at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM.

Submitted by: **Gayle Glumac – Chairman**

- Personnel Committee Meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2026 immediately following the Electric Committee Meeting.

Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 10, 2026 7:11 PM – 8:21 PM

Present: Joshua Kuhl, Gayle Glumac, Kaleb Wright, RJ Lindemann, Eric Blake, Mike Swick, Melissa Brooks and Maggie McDonald

Meeting was called to order at 7:11 A.M.

- The committee moved to go out of open session and into closed session to discuss personnel. RJ Lindemann made the motion and Gayle Glumac seconded.
- Mike Swick made the motion to go out of closed session and back into open session, RJ Lindemann seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM

Submitted by: **Mike Swick - Chairman**

- Water and Wastewater Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 5:30 PM.

Water and Waste Water Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, March 18, 2026 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Attendees: Mike Swick, RJ Lindemann, Eric Blake, Gayle Glumac, Joshua Kuhl, Melissa Brooks, Maggie McDonald, Shannon Woodard, Brent Benefiel, Josh Ochs and Bill Heap

Meeting began at 5:30 PM.

- The sewer main project on East Reynolds Street was discussed. The project will include the installation of three new manholes and approximately 300 linear feet of new sewer main. The estimated project cost is \$46,000. Upon completion of the main installation, affected property owners will be responsible for connecting their private service lines to the new main. The City will coordinate with the City Attorney to prepare the necessary easements. The project is anticipated to be completed during the summer construction season.

Bill Heap arrived at 5:35 PM.



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- The condition of an existing water main located behind Tarr Chiropractic, running east and west from Hutton Drive toward the Homestead Subdivision, was discussed. The line is currently exposed and deteriorating. The City plans to abandon and cap this line. Affected properties will instead be served by three (3) separate service lines, which will be connected to the south water main and extended north to the respective properties. The estimated project cost is \$15,500, which will be incorporated into the upcoming fiscal year Water Department budget.
- Notice was received regarding the resignation of the Water Department Head. Shannon Woodard will serve as Interim Operator until the position is filled.
- The City has begun receiving sludge loads from Newton Power Plant.
- Brent will coordinate with the school superintendent and maintenance personnel to address the school's downspout drainage concerns. With the planned school expansion, this is considered an appropriate time to resolve the issue.
- A quote in the amount of \$135,000 has been obtained for improvements to the Yager Lift Station. The City will explore potential grant funding opportunities to assist with the project.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Submitted by: **Mike Swick - Chairman**

9. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Consider and act on authorizing the City of Newton to pursue a USDA loan to offer more economic development incentives to the community.

Motion dies for lack of motion.

- B. Consider and act on authorizing an asbestos inspection and to seek bids for the demolition project at 311 S. Jackson St.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize an asbestos inspection and to seek bids for the demolition project at 311 S. Jackson St.

Ayes: Glumac, Lindemann, Blake, Swick

Nays: None

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Consider and act on authorizing Clint Crossen's Letter of Resignation.

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Mike Swick, to authorize Clint Crossen's Letter of Resignation. Effective immediately.

Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac

Nays: None

- B. Consider and act on authorizing the Special Event Application submitted by Newton Elementary for the Strong Boys Strong Girls Run on Thursday, May 21, 2026 from 8:45 AM – 11:00 AM.

Motion was made by Gayle Glumac, seconded by RJ Lindemann, to authorize the Special Event Application submitted by Newton Elementary for the Strong Boys Strong Girls Run on Thursday, May 21, 2026 from 8:45 AM – 11:00 AM.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Lindemann

Nays: None



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11. STATEMENTS BY:

Glumac: The weather is going to start breaking and we will begin practicing for the Strong Boys and Strong Girls Run next week. Please keep your eyes out for the all the kiddos.

Lindemann: Presented the utility adjustments and voiced opposition to Capital Development Fund.

Blake: Thanked Clint Crossen for his service with the city.

Swick: Thanked Clint Crossen for his service and prayers sent to his family.

City Attorney: No comments.

City Treasurer: No comments.

City Clerk: 1 PO

1. Electric Department PO to Wesco in the amount of \$22,883.93 for lighting at the Pickleball Courts at Peterson Park. (This will be reimbursed with ETCG funds.)

Motion was made by RJ Lindemann, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize the Electric Department PO to Wesco in the amount of \$22,883.93 for lighting at the Pickleball Courts at Peterson Park. (This will be reimbursed with ETCG funds.)

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Lindemann, Blake

Nays: None

Mayor: Prayers for strength and healing for Clint and his family. I appreciate Clint's dedication and commitment to the city over these past five years. Congratulations to all the election winners. The weather is changing. Spring and Summer sports are session. Please stay alert and eyes open for the extra folks out and about.

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

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Finance and Audit Committee Meeting on Monday, March 30, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

Ayes: Glumac, Lindemann, Swick, Blake

Nays: None

Open session suspended at 6:22 PM.

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

Ayes: Lindemann, Blake, Swick, Glumac

Nays: None



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Open session resumed at 6:57 PM.

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

14. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Lindemann

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Submitted by:

Maggie McDonald, City Clerk