



UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
108 N. VAN BUREN St.
NEWTON, IL 62448
May 19, 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: Gayle Glumac, Kaleb Wright, Larry Brooks, Eric Blake and Mike Swick
Also present: Attorney William Heap, Treasurer Melissa Brooks and City Clerk Maggie McDonald
Absent: Alderman RJ Lindemann
4. ADOPT OR AMEND AGENDA:
Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to adopt the proposed agenda.
Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Blake, Swick
Nays: None
5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES of May 5, 2026.
Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Mike Swick, to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2026 meeting of the Newton City Council.
Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Blake, Swick, Glumac
Nays: None
6. APPROVAL OF BILLS & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:
Alderman Wright reviewed the pre-paids in the amount of \$297,640.47 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 \$271,158.17. Gayle Glumac seconded the motion.
Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright
Nays: None

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: **None**

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS OR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

- Finance and Audit Committee Meeting on Monday, May 11, 2026 at 5:30 PM.

Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes May 11, 2026 5:30 PM – 6:15 PM

Present: RJ Lindemann, Larry Brooks, Joshua Kuhl, Gayle Glumac, Melissa Brooks, Mike Swick, Bill Burke, Doug Weddell and Maggie McDonald

Eric Blake arrived at 5:38 PM.

- TIF incentives were discussed. It was decided that the City of Newton would take conversations on a more case by case.
- Discuss the 110 S. Van Buren St. application. It was recommended to bring the application to vote next meeting.

Adjourned at 6:15 PM

Submitted by: **RJ Lindemann – Chairman**



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- Personnel Committee Meeting on Monday, May 11, 2026 immediately following the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting.

Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, May 11, 2026 6:15 PM – 7:34 PM

Present: Joshua Kuhl, Gayle Glumac, Larry Brooks, RJ Lindemann, Eric Blake, Mike Swick, Melissa Brooks, Maggie McDonald and Jennifer Holland

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 P.M.

- The committee moved to go out of open session and into closed session to interview for the water plant operator department head position. Eric Blake made the motion and Gayle Glumac seconded.

7:33 PM

- RJ Lindemann made the motion to go out of closed session and back into open session, Mike Swick seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM

Submitted by: **Eric Blake – Chairman**

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Consider and act on authorizing the TIF Application submitted for 110 S. Van Buren St. by United Country Burke Auction and Realty.

Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize the TIF Application submitted for 110 S. Van Buren St. by United Country Burke Auction and Realty for 15% of the total project cost, up to the amount of \$16,060. Reimbursement will be issued as a one-time payment upon completion of the project and will not be included in the annual TIF increment reimbursement.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

- B. Consider and act on authorizing the appointment of Department Heads.

Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Mike Swick, to authorize the appointment of Department Heads.

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Blake

Nays: None

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Open bids for the 311 S. Jackson St. Demolition Project.

- B. Consider and act on awarding the bid for the 311 S. Jackson St. Demolition Project.

Motion was made by Gayle Glumac, seconded by Mike Swick, to award the bid for the 311 S. Jackson St. Demolition Project to Double B's Land Management in the amount of \$9,990.

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Blake

Nays: None

- C. Consider and act on authorizing a one-year contract agreement with the Chief of Police.



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Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize a one-year contract agreement with the Chief of Police.

Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Swick

Nays: Blake

- D. Consider and act on authorizing the hire of Jennifer Holland for the Water Plant Operator Department Head position.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize the hire of Jennifer Holland for the Water Plant Operator Department Head position. Start date will be June 1, 2026.

Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Blake, Swick, Glumac

Nays: None

- E. Consider and act on authorizing Department Heads to receive certificate pay in addition to a \$1.25 hourly wage increase. Certificate pay will mirror the union contract certificate pay schedule for each department, retroactive to May 1, 2026.

Motion was made by Eric Blake, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize Department Heads to receive certificate pay in addition to a \$1.25 hourly wage increase. Certificate pay will mirror the union contract certificate pay schedule for each department.

Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright

Nays: None

- F. Consider and act on authorizing a Letter of Agreement with the PBPA Labor Committee, modifying residency requirements.

Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Mike Swick, to authorize a Letter of Agreement with the PBPA Labor Committee, modifying residency requirements.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

- G. Consider and act on authorizing the Project Change Request Order #1 to BHMG in the amount of \$23,900 for the Electric Line D Grid Resilience Grant.

Motion was made by Gayle Glumac, seconded by Mike Swick, to table authorizing the Project Change Request Order #1 to BHMG in the amount of \$23,900 for the Electric Line D Grid Resilience Grant to the June 2, 2026 meeting of the Newton City Council.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

- H. Consider and act on passing Ordinance 26-03 Revising Chapter 11 Electric System Net Metering Policy and Forms to Comply with 2026 Clean and Reliable Grid Affordability Act.



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Motion was made by Gayle Glumac, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to pass Ordinance 26-03 Revising Chapter 11 Electric System Net Metering Policy and Forms to Comply with 2026 Clean and Reliable Grid Affordability Act.

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Blake

Nays: None

- I. Consider and act on passing Ordinance 26-04 Amending Paragraph (B) of Chapter 12-1-4 Residency Policy.

Motion was made by Eric Blake, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to pass Ordinance 26-04 Amending Paragraph (B) of Chapter 12-1-4 Residency Policy.

Ayes: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Blake, Swick

Nays: None

- J. Consider and act on passing Ordinance 26-05 Offering Incentives to Encourage the Demolition and Disposal of Dangerous and Dilapidated Buildings Within the City of Newton.

Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to table passing Ordinance 26-05 Offering Incentives to Encourage the Demolition and Disposal of Dangerous and Dilapidated Buildings Within the City of Newton to the June 2, 2026 meeting of the Newton City Council.

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

Nays: None

- K. Consider and act on passing Ordinance 26-06 Expand and Clarify Chapter 27-2-39 Regarding Specified Drug Prohibitions.

Motion was made by Kaleb Wright, seconded by Mike Swick, to pass Ordinance 26-06 Expand and Clarify Chapter 27-2-39 Regarding Specified Drug Prohibitions.

Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright

Nays: None

- L. Consider and act on authorizing the quote from Barlow Lock and Security for fire alarm and CO Detector additions for Newton City Hall and Newton Police Department.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize the quote from Barlow Lock and Security for fire alarm and CO Detector additions for Newton City Hall and Newton Police Department in the amount of \$5,355.00. This will be split 50/50 between departments.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks



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Nays: None

M. Consider and act on authorizing a Grant Writing Agreement with SCIRPDC for the submission of the Illinois Strong Communities Program Grant.

Motion was made by Gayle Glumac, seconded by Kaleb Wright, to authorize a Grant Writing Agreement with SCIRPDC for the submission of the Illinois Strong Communities Program Grant.

Ayes: Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks

Nays: None

10. STATEMENTS BY:

Glumac: The Strong Girls and Strong Boys Run will take place this Thursday at 8:30 AM. This marks the 11th year of the Strong Girls program. It is a wonderful program that encourages confidence, fitness, and teamwork in our youth, and everyone is encouraged to come out and show their support.

The pool will officially open for the season this Saturday, May 23, 2026 at 1:00 PM. The library will host its Summer Reading Program Kick-Off this Saturday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Activities will include planting flowers at the park, mini golf, and a story time. It will be a fun event for kids and a great way to celebrate the start of summer reading.

Wright: Presented utility adjustments.

Brooks: No comments.

Blake: Stated he has received several calls from City union employees expressing their appreciation to him and the Council for approving the union contract. Blake also thanked all City employees for their continued hard work and dedication.

Swick: It's a holiday weekend. Please remember all gave some and some gave all.

City Attorney: Ditto Mike.

City Treasurer: Expressed appreciation to all veterans and service members for their service and thanked those who continue to serve and protect our country.

City Clerk: 1 PO

1. Wastewater Department PO#11 to Bradford Supply Company in the amount of \$5,052.55 for 580' ft of 10" SCH40 PVC Pipe for a sewer line replacement to the Rex Vault lift station.

Motion was made by Mike Swick, seconded by Gayle Glumac, to authorize the Wastewater Department PO#11 to Bradford Supply Company in the amount of \$5,052.55 for 580' ft of 10" SCH40 PVC Pipe for a sewer line replacement to the Rex Vault lift station.

Ayes: Swick, Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Blake

Nays: None

Happy Memorial Day.



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Mayor: Echo Gayle's comments regarding two upcoming community events. The Strong Boys and Strong Girls Run will take place this Thursday at 8:30 AM, and the community pool will open for the season on Saturday at 1:00 PM for Memorial Day Weekend.

Also note, the last day of school is Friday! Want to wish all students, families, and staff a safe and enjoyable summer.

I give appreciation to the City employees who assisted with the City-Wide Cleanup. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

The City is aware of the flooding concerns caused by the significant amount of rainfall received over the last several days. Large volumes of rain in a short period of time place a strain on the City's drainage systems. Residents are asked to remain patient as crews continue to monitor conditions. In some areas, staff must wait for water levels to recede before they can fully assess and address the issues.

11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: **June 2, 2026 at 6:00 PM**

SCHEDULED COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Eric Blake, seconded by Gayle Glumac, 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: Glumac, Wright, Brooks, Blake, Swick

Nays: None

Open session suspended at 6:53 PM.

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

Ayes: Wright, Brooks, Blake, Swick, Glumac

Nays: None

Open session resumed at 7:20 PM.

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

13. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Gayle Glumac, seconded by Eric Blake, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Brooks, Blake, Swick, Glumac, Wright

Nays: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Submitted by:

Maggie McDonald, City Clerk