



CITY OF NEWTON

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INCORPORATED CITY 1887

Park, Cemetery and Pool Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, July 28, 2026 5:30 PM – 6:01 PM

Present: Gayle Glumac, Joshua Kuhl, Mike Swick, Larry Brooks, Kaleb Wright, Melissa Brooks, Maggie McDonald, Mike Schackmann, Matt Tarr and Amy Tarr

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 P.M.

- The committee discussed cemetery-related policies and maintenance matters, including questions regarding cremation burials, the limitation of one burial per plot, and responsibility for damaged or fallen headstones. It was clarified that the maintenance and repair of headstones remain the responsibility of the plot owner or the owner's family and only one burial per plot will be allowed. The committee also recommended conducting an annual inspection of the cemetery prior to the start of mowing season to document and address any maintenance concerns.

Amy Tarr arrived at 5:35 PM

- Performance of the city's contracted mowing service for the parks and cemetery was reviewed. The committee agreed that the contractor has not consistently met the city's expectations and emphasized the importance of documenting completed and incomplete work to ensure payments accurately reflect services rendered. The committee recommended terminating the current mowing contract and soliciting new bids in early fall.
- Alderman Glumac and Clerk McDonald presented a proposal to establish a Pickleball Club funded through annual membership dues. The intent of the program was to create a dedicated funding source for the ongoing maintenance and future improvements of the city's pickleball courts. Following discussion, the committee did not want to pursue the proposal due to concerns regarding potential insurance and liability reasons.
- The city will be pouring concrete between the tennis courts and pickleball courts in the near future and we are still on schedule to have the pool painted this fall.

Eric Blake arrived at 5:49 PM.

- Matt Tarr provided an update on the Lights in the Park. The committee was informed that the current beginning balance is \$6,475.00, and event setup is scheduled to begin the week of November 2. The high school welding class is constructing new signs for the event. Additionally, the committee discussed budgeting additional funds for electrical hookups and holiday lighting around the courthouse square for future Christmas seasons.
- Amy Tarr reported that the vinyl coverings on the city's welcome signs at the entrances to town are deteriorating and require replacement. She will obtain cost estimates for the replacement of the signage for the committee to consider.

Meeting adjourned at 6:01 PM

Submitted by:

Gayle Glumac - Chairman