

MINUTES
North Newton City Council – Regular Meeting
February 10, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.
North Newton Community Room

1. Call to Order

Mayor Braun called the meeting to order. Those present and constituting a quorum were:

COUNCIL: Gregg Dick, Jim Goering, Ron Ratzlaff, Dennis Campbell and Kurt Friesen

STAFF: John Torline, Danny Entz, Randy Jordan and Pat Redding

OTHERS: Linda Peters, Phillip Beebe, Grace Wild, Fred Schroeder, Joel Gaeddert and Wendy Nugent

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the January 13, 2020 Regular Meeting were presented.

MOTION: Ratzlaff moved, Dick seconded, to approve the January 13, 2020 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizen Comments

No one spoke

4. Consider the Mayor's appointment to the North Newton Housing Authority.

Mayor Braun recommended Gloria Neal be appointed to a four year term on the North Newton Housing Authority. Gloria Neal is a resident at Wheatland Homes and has agreed to serve in this roll.

MOTION: Goering moved, Friesen seconded, to appoint Gloria Neal to the North Newton Housing Authority. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Receive Phillip Beebe for a presentation regarding the upcoming Harvey County Safety Fair.

Phillip Beebe from Newton Fire/EMS reported on the first ever Harvey County Safety Fair. This event is sponsored by the Harvey County Emergency Management Department and is planned for Saturday, March 7 from 10am to 2pm at the Chisholm Trail Center. This event is an interactive and informative opportunity for individuals and family's to learn ways to prepare for potential dangers of every season. The goal of the Harvey County Safety Fair is to provide ways to keep our community members safe.

6. Consider an Adjustment to the Kidron Bethel Planned Unit Development.

Torline reported that Kidron Bethel campus is contained within a Planned Unit Development (PUD). This is a zoning category and if the footprint of the PUD is changed an administrative adjustment or amendment is required. Typically a formal amendment is required when the footprint changes but in recent years we have streamlined the process for what is considered a minor change in the approved

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plan. Kidron Bethel is currently proposing to build a Physical Therapy Office that connects to their existing building. Greg Nye, North Newton City Planner, is recommending an administrative adjustment to the PUD due to the following reasons: there are no apartments being added, no change in the grade, streets, water and sewer all remain the same and the density of the number of buildings and the occupants remain the same. If approved, the Mayor will be asked to sign a PUD Administrative Adjustment Affidavit authorizing the changes.

MOTION: Dick moved, Campbell seconded, to approve the Administrative Adjustment to the Kidron Bethel PUD. Motion carried unanimously

7. Consider amending the Zoning Ordinance to recognize distinctions between Newton and North Newton Sign Regulations.

Torline reported that Newton and North Newton share the same zoning ordinance. When changes are made to the ordinance both cities are asked to pass the amended ordinance. The Newton/North Newton Planning Commission recently approved a revision to the sign ordinance to include murals. In recent years North Newton has gone its own way on a couple of zoning issues and this sign ordinance is one of these situations. Addendum I outlines what signs are allowed in North Newton and is being amended to include artistic and commercial murals. The other changes to Ordinance 631-20 consist of rearranging definitions, cleaning up the formatting and correcting signature placement.

MOTION: Goering moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to approve Ordinance 631-20 amending the sign regulations for the City of North Newton. Motion carried. Councilman Friesen abstained from voting.

8. Reports

a. Mayor/Council. Mayor Braun had nothing to report. Councilman Goering reported that the balance of the North Newton Community Foundation as of January 14 is \$457,079. There is \$8,000 left to be matched for existing endowed funds. The NNCF has appointed the following new board members: Mark Janzen, Tom Jackson and Ray Olais. The Grant Selection process will open in the next month. Councilman Ratzlaff reminded council of upcoming REAP events.

b. Staff Update. Torline reported that a date needs to be set for spring work session. Discussion items at this point are park/recreation facilities, addressing flood issues and discussion about connecting to the Public Wholesale Water District (PWWD) wells and pumping water through our treatment facility. Council agreed to meet prior to the April 9 Council Meeting for the spring work session. Torline reported that the next PWWD meeting is April 29 and Torline has requested that our connection to the PWWD well be an agenda item.

Torline approved the proposal from Conservation Contractors to clean out portions of Kidron Creek. Conservation Contractors has specialized equipment to minimize the damage to the landscape. The contract approves 20 hours of work and the contractors plan to start the clean-up as soon as the ground dries or freezes. The contract states the contractors are expected to keep itemized record of days worked, hours worked, machine hours and any other expenses they might incur as these are reimbursable costs from the Kansas Division of Emergency Management. The clean-up will start south of 30th Street where the blockages are the most severe. Entz and McBeth will assist in hauling limbs and branches to the burn site.

Torline reported that the sewer agreement with Newton is still in process. City staff responded with some edits to the agreement Newton proposed so we are waiting for a response back from them.

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Torline also reported that we are having the sewer lines televised starting across the street from the Co-op to the manhole near Chong's Restaurant. There is some infiltration in this area so televising will pinpoint the problem so the line can be repaired.

Torline stated the pre-construction conference for the KDOT trail is scheduled for February 26 in El Dorado. Torline and Entz plan to attend.

Entz reported that they have been busy cleaning streets, sweeping leaves out of the gutters and putting gravel on various streets this past month. Entz and McBeth have also spent time evaluating Kidron Creek and discovered the worst blockages are south of 30th Street.

Chief Jordan thanked Entz and McBeth for the good job they have done putting salt and sand on our streets and intersections. The Police Department has had a busy 2-3 weeks doing investigations on various cases. Jordan expressed gratitude for his experienced staff and how they handle themselves during these investigations.

Jordan reported the radar sign has been on Minnesota Avenue for the last month. Compliance is between 68% and 75% which is improved from the last time the radar trailer was in this same location.

Jordan also reported on the fuel cost savings since the Honda Clarity was purchased last May. Before the Clarity was purchased the monthly fuel costs for the Charger could be as much as \$120 month. Since purchasing the Clarity Jordan has filled it with gasoline one time for a cost of \$12.88. The average electricity use to charge the Clarity is 100 kWh per month. Approximate cost per kWh is 12 cents totaling \$12.00 per month. Jordan is estimating a fuel savings of \$800.00 to \$1,000 per year.

c. **Clerk/Treasurer.** Redding presented February Accounts Payable and January Payroll for consideration.

MOTION: Ratzlaff moved, Friesen seconded, to approve February accounts payable and miscellaneous bills in the amount of \$202,034.77 and January payrolls in the amount of \$28,663.23. Motion carried unanimously.

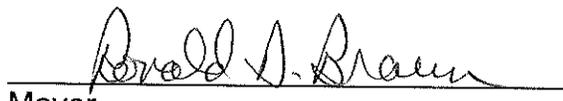
9. Non-Agenda Items

None presented.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business Mayor Braun declared the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.


City Clerk


Mayor

March 9, 2020
Date Approved