

MINUTES
North Newton City Council – Regular Meeting
April 9, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.
North Newton City Hall

1. Call to Order

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

COUNCIL: Ron Ratzlaff, Paul Harder, Gregg Dick, Jim Goering and Dennis Campbell

STAFF: John Torline, Danny Bisoni, Greg Nye, Randy Jordan and Pat Redding

OTHERS: Kurt Friesen, Fred Schroeder, Yusaf Qamar, Tessa Isaac, Chris Riesen, Ray Strunk, Nathan Murphy and Grace Wild

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the March 12, 2018 Regular Meeting were presented.

MOTION: Ratzlaff moved, Goering seconded, to approve the March 12, 2018 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Citizen Comments

No one spoke.

4. Consider an Agreement by and between the cities in Harvey County and Harvey County to participate in a Drug Task Force.

Mayor Braun reported that for the last number of months the Sherriff's Department and the Police Chiefs from the County have been working on a Drug Task Force Interlocal Agreement. This agreement requires every city in the County to pay \$1,000 annually into the Drug Task Force fund. The Newton Police Department and the Harvey County Sheriff's Office provide the personnel to carry out the terms of the agreement. The agreement also outlines how forfeiture funds will be divided among the participating agencies. Other cities in the County have signed the agreement and now council is asked to review the agreement.

MOTION: Harder moved, Dick seconded, to approve the Harvey County Drug Task Force Interlocal Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Consider the Designation of Local Banking Institutions as Official Depositories of City Funds.

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Torline reported that as interest rates rise the City is looking into investing monies in different banking institutions that would create revenue to our general fund. Currently our checking and savings accounts are at Midland National Bank. We recently opened up a CD at First Bank. Council is asked to designate the following list of banks in Newton as official depositories: Bank of the West, Central National Bank, Citizen's State Bank, Community Bank and Trust, First Bank of Newton and Midland National Bank.

MOTION: Goering moved, Ratzlaff seconded, to approve said depositories. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Reports

a. **Mayor/Council.** Mayor Braun reminded everyone of the Council Work Session on April 19 at 6pm. Dinner will be served. Discussion items include: water and sewer rates, affordable housing and the possibility of an electric vehicle charging station. Torline stated that signage between Newton and North Newton has also been added to the agenda. Councilman Goering reported that the North Newton Community Foundation (NNCF) current asset balance is \$222,800. The grant cycle ended on April 2 and sixteen grant applications are now being scored by the Grant Selection Committee. Approximately \$10,000 will be given away at the Awards Ceremony on June 14 at the Meridian Center.

b. **Staff Update.** Torline reported that Harvey County Council of Government meets on Wednesday, April 11 at Breadbasket at 7:00am. Torline stated the Lakewood Circle contract will be on the agenda in May. The engineers are still working on finalizing the plans.

Bisoni reported that Spring Clean-up started today and he and Danny Entz have already hauled a couple of dump trucks of trash to the transfer station. Bsoni reported that the stripes and handicap markings in the parking lot at City Hall and the Post Office were painted this past week. Bsoni is using a new product called Aqua Shade to treat Campus Woods Pond. It is a yellow/blue dye that prevents light from penetrating to the bottom of the pond which impedes algae growth. Mayor Braun thanked Bisoni and Entz for their work with spring clean-up.

Chief Jordan reported that we have received 37 applications for an additional officer. Five applicants have been tested and four have been interviewed. Jordan stated he hoped to wrap up this process in the next three weeks.

Attorney Nye had nothing to report.

c. **Clerk/Treasurer.** Redding presented accounts payable and payroll for consideration.

MOTION: Dick moved, Harder seconded, to approve April accounts payable and miscellaneous checks in the amount of \$92,498.97 and March payroll in the amount of \$25,248.07. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Non-Agenda Items

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None presented.

8. Adjournment.

There being no further business Mayor Braun declared the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Patricia Padgett
City Clerk

Arnold A Braun
Mayor

May 14, 2018
Date Approved