

Newton Town Council Meeting
October 3, 2024, 7:00 P.M.
Newton Town Hall, 51 South Center, Newton UT
Minutes

Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Opening Ceremony – Steven Jenkins
3. Approval of September 5, 2024, Minutes
4. Youth Council Update
5. Draft code on animal regulations review
6. Draft code update of minor subdivision
7. Declaration of surplus items for sale
8. Pickleball court funding options review
9. Park concerns
10. Nomination and appointment of new Planning Commission Members
11. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments

1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members present.

Members present: Mayor Mike Benson, Jake Christiansen, Steven Jenkins, and Jed Woodward.

Absent: Brett Petersen. Electronic attendance by Zoom: None

Karla Ferguson (Recorder) and Kathryn Rigby (Treasurer)

Others present: Holly Call, Sarah Rigby, Jonathon Duncan, Brock Call, and Jacob Francom.

2. Opening ceremony conducted by Steven Jenkins

3. The Newton Town Council meeting minutes for September 5, 2024, were approved.

4. Youth Council Update – Jake Christiansen reported for the Youth Council because they are currently working on building their scare house. The scare house will be used as a fundraiser for the Youth Council. It will be held October 25 and 26.

5. Draft code on animal regulations review – Holly Call explained that the Planning Commission adjusted the small animal point values on the draft code since the last meeting with the Town Council. Holly Call explained the limits on animals and if an animal is not listed then it is not allowed. There was a discussion on conditional use permits for allowing additional animals based on facilities, and input from neighbors. Conditional use permits would be reviewed the second year for any complaints. There was a discussion on domesticated pigeons or fowls and if they are not captive, but the resident is feeding. Mike Benson reviewed the need for an animal code to protect the rights to keep animals and protect neighbors from nuisances. Brock Call, Jonathon Duncan and Jacob Francom asked questions about the proposed code and how it was determined. Research and years of discussions regarding the proposed code were discussed. Nuisances were discussed. It was suggested to add to the code that animals must be maintained with animal enclosures on property including chickens or fowls. Hyde Park animal code was reviewed. Holly Call will propose the suggested changes to the Planning Commission next week. A public hearing will be held by the Town Council in November for the draft code.

6. Draft code update of minor subdivision – Hansen Planning Group has responded with a review of Newton's minor subdivision code. Items that need to be decided on are the formation of a review committee. It was suggested to make up the review committee of staff, town engineer, legal counsel, and an assigned town council member. The town will need to establish a fee. By Utah Code the minor subdivision will become an administrative action and not a legislative action. Changes to the Subdivision code must be made before the end of the year as required by the

Utah Code. Jake Christiansen will talk to Brett Petersen and have the Planning Commission put it on their agenda to review Hansen Planning Groups proposal and make suggestions for subdivision code changes.

7. Declaration of surplus items for sale – No bids were received last month for the ambulance with a minimum bid set at \$2,000. Mike Benson suggested reposting the notification of accepting bids for the ambulance with a minimum bid set at \$500. The library has 10 shelves they would like declared surplus and to sell them for \$20 each. Jake Christiansen made a motion to accept a minimum bid on the ambulance of \$500 and declare surplus 10 bookshelves for sale. Mike Benson seconded the motion. All approve.

8. Pickleball court funding options review – Mike Benson discussed that he has not found any new sources for funding. Mike would like to use some capital improvement funds to finish the pickleball project. Newton has received a \$20,000 donation and \$45,000 RAPZ grant for the pickleball courts. Kathy Rigby reported that the capital project fund has a little over \$500,000 but at least \$200,000 of that is restricted for a fire station. It was discussed that we are long overdue to build a new fire station. Jake Christiansen agreed to look at more funding options. Mike Benson will talk to Eric Dursteler about how to start the pickleball project and pay for portions of it and in-kind work.

9. Park concerns – It was discussed that more damage has occurred to the triple slide. Teenagers with ATVs on the playground at night are a concern. Dogs at large knocking over garbage cans at the park are also a concern. Karla Ferguson is working with Gaylen Maughan on getting bids for replacement slides but finding the correct size has been an issue. Mike Benson will arrange for animal control to monitor the park on Monday morning to watch for dogs at large. Placing signage at the park for video surveillance was discussed.

10. Nomination and appointment of new Planning Commission Members – Because Brett Petersen is not in attendance no nominations were made. Jake will tell him to go ahead and ask those he had in mind then the town council will accept the nominations.

11. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments

- Mayor Benson – Animal Control/Administration/Nuisance/Parks
- Jake Christiansen – Library/Special Events/Youth Council
- Steven Jenkins – Buildings/Land Management
- Brett Petersen – Planning/Fire Dept./EMS

Mike Benson discussed locking the gates between the town hall and metal building to keep kids out of the area. Jake Christiansen reported that the library will hold a witch's story time on Oct 26. The library is installing new shelves that were purchased with a grant. Jake would like suggestions for the town employee dinner. Santa is scheduled to come to the library on December 4. Jake will follow up with the "Merry and Bright" committee to see if the date works.

Steven Jenkins reported that the Town Hall roof is scheduled for repair in November. Steven will look into signage for the town hall and park.

Jed Woodward reported that he has shut off the water to the metal building because of a water leak on the outside south/west corner of the town hall. Jed plans to dig up the water line and inspect and repair it. Jed said the extension of 300 South Road has been completed and paved and a new water line installed. A water hydrant on 100 South 400 West needs to be repaired. Jed has downloaded the water data for the town hall and soccer field water meters so that the water use can be put in the water analysis study that Dell Vance is working on.

Mike Benson asked that town council members begin looking at their department budgets and consider raises for those employees that haven't had a raise for a while.

The regular meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by:

Karla R. Ferguson, Newton Town Clerk

Approval Date