

Newton Town Council Meeting
July 1, 2025, 7:00 P.M.
Newton Town Hall, 51 South Center, Newton UT
Minutes

Agenda

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Opening Ceremony – Brett Petersen
3. Approval of June 5, 2025, Minutes
4. Youth Council update
5. Town Celebration Update
6. Pickleball Courts “pre-construction meeting”
7. Nominations for Newton outstanding citizen
8. Property Line Adjustment Agreement – 51 South Center/76 South 100 West
9. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments
10. Closed meeting to vote for Newton outstanding citizen, roll call vote to close meeting.

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

Mayor Mike Benson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Mayor Mike Benson, Jake Christiansen, Steven Jenkins, Brett Petersen and Jed Woodward. Electronic attendance by Zoom: none

Karla Ferguson (Recorder) and Kathryn Rigby (Treasurer)

Others present: Beth Jenkins, Matt Bentley, Delsa Bentley, Eric Dursteler, Jeff Larsen, Erin Larsen, and Sarah Rigby.

2. Opening ceremony conducted by Brett Petersen.

3. The Newton Town Council meeting minutes for June 5, 2025, were approved.

4. Youth Council update – Not in attendance. Jake Christiansen reported that the youth council has decorated the town float in a construction theme.

5. Town Celebration Update – Delsa Bentley reviewed the planned schedule for the town celebration. The fireworks display was discussed. A \$1,500 donation was received from Chris Richardson with Sinclair. Jake Christiansen will ask Josh Myers and Parley Buck about doing a fireworks display. Jake will ask Jeff Benson for fireworks oversight or suggestions. The dinner for Friday night will be done by Collin Bracken, Pizza Stop. The proceeds will be given to Newton for playground equipment. Local dairy farmers will donate ice cream and cheese. Free ice cream will be given out Friday night and Saturday. They have no one that wants to run the breakfast at this time. Bounce houses will cost more this year because they are using Checket’s amusements to have them set up/take down and manned for the rental time. They will charge \$7 per wrist band. The price will be about \$2,590. They will also have a dunking booth, cornhole tournament., volleyball tournament, and horseshoe tournament.

6. Pickleball Courts “pre-construction meeting” – Eric Dursteler reviewed the plans for installing two pickleball courts at Clarke park. The location of the new courts is a concern for neighbors. Jeff and Erin Larsen expressed concerns about the location with the noise and lights. The town council discussed having lights on a timer to shut off at 10 p.m. A 6-foot fence will be installed around the courts. Eric Dursteler described a sound damping barrier that could be installed to the north fence to dampen sound. The sound barrier dampens sound by up to 30%. Eric will get costs to present at the pre-construction meeting. The courts will be open 7 am to 10 pm with posted hours. The location of the courts was discussed. The location of the drain field for

the existing restroom, sprinkler and secondary water lines was reviewed. The Town Council agreed that they liked the location at Clarke Park on the North/West corner. A pre-construction meeting will be held Tuesday, July 8, at 2:00 pm. A notice for the meeting will be posted.

7. Nominations for Newton outstanding citizen – Nomination letters were received for Cora Cooley and Collin Bracken. Other nominations were Michelle Griffin, Kevin Rhodes and Natalie Phillips.

8. Property Line Adjustment Agreement – 51 South Center/76 South 100 West – Eric Dursteler reviewed the proposed adjustment. Eric recommends the town have a survey completed with a legal description done with an easement for the metal building drain field. Eric will contact Foresight Survey to do the legal description for the town portion of the adjustment.

9. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments

- Mayor Benson – Animal Control/Administration/Nuisance/Parks
- Steven Jenkins – Buildings/Land Management
- Brett Petersen – Planning/Fire Dept./EMS
- Jed Woodward – Water/Streets

Mike Benson discussed enforcing right-of-way codes to clean up town property and plans to meet with the town clerks to start the process. The new playground equipment will not arrive until July 21. The town will need to move the bark in order to save it. The town council discussed purchasing new bark for the playground. Karla Ferguson will check on prices with Garrett Parks and Play. Mike Benson will check with Miller Landscape products. The town council discussed removing the bark and old, broken equipment in the morning of July 7 to save time for the installation of the new playground set. Jake Christiansen asked Sarah Rigby to report on the Library. Sarah reported they are holding summer reading program and have had about 30 kids attend story time. Steven Jenkins reported that the toilets on the metal building have not been working and he has had a plumber look at them and they have ordered parts. Brett Petersen reported that the Planning Commission did not meet last month. Jed Woodward discussed the location of the drain field on the metal building behind the town hall. Jed Woodward reviewed that the town tractor used to mow street rights-of-way has broken and needs to be replaced. Jed found a replacement tractor that will go on sale in the fall for \$14,500. It is a 1990, 541 John Deere tractor with 3018 hours. The Town Council looked at pictures of the tractor. Jed reported that the springs are running okay but we are using a lot more water this year. The secondary water pond is low but hasn't run dry yet. Residents of the town have used more secondary water from the reservoir this year. The meters show 8 million gallons into the secondary system (from town culinary) and 26 million gallons out for secondary water. Mike asked to put out a reminder on not watering during the day.

10. Closed meeting to vote for Newton outstanding citizen. Roll call vote to close meeting:

COUNCILMEMBER	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Mike Benson	X			
Jake Christiansen	X			
Steven Jenkins	X			
Brett Petersen	X			
Jed Woodward	X			

All agreed to go into closed meeting.

11. Closed meeting to vote for Newton outstanding citizen – 8:55 p.m. Present in closed meeting: Mike Benson, Steven Jenkins, Brett Petersen, Jake Christiansen, Jed Woodward, Kathryn Rigby and Karla Ferguson. A vote was taken to decide on the outstanding citizen in a closed meeting so it could be a surprise for the town celebration.

Roll call vote to open closed meeting:

COUNCILMEMBER	YES	NO	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Mike Benson	X			
Jake Christiansen	X			
Steven Jenkins	X			
Brett Petersen	X			
Jed Woodward	X			

All agreed to go back to an open meeting.

Town Celebration events were again discussed. Other options besides fireworks were discussed. Kathryn Rigby will follow up with the donor, Chris Richardson to see if it was donated for a specific thing. Jake Christiansen will follow up to see if another group is willing to purchase and light fireworks. The town will pay \$1,000 and use the \$1,500 donation for fireworks.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:

Karla R. Ferguson, Newton Town Clerk

Approval Date