

Newton Town Council Meeting
October 2, 2025, 7:00 P.M.
Newton Town Hall, 51 South Center, Newton UT
Minutes

Agenda

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Opening Ceremony – Jake Christiansen
3. Approval of September 4, 2025, Minutes
4. Youth Council Update
5. Property Line Adjustment Agreement for 51 South Center/76 South 100 West review
6. 4th Quarter Financial Statements review
7. Building security, electronic locks, and security cameras (possible closed meeting)
8. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments

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, and Brett Petersen

Absent: Jed Woodward. Electronic attendance by Zoom: none

Karla Ferguson (Recorder) and Kathryn Rigby (Treasurer)

Others in attendance: Reid Smith, Michelle Plainer, Joe Plainer Carrie Milligan, Miles Stewart, Rolland Griffin, Michelle Griffin and Sarah Rigby.

2. Opening ceremony conducted by Jake Christiansen.

3. The Newton Town Council meeting minutes for September 4, 2025, were approved.

4. Youth Council Update – Miles Stewart, Newton Youth Council Mayor, reported that the Youth Council now has 21 members with six members 8th graders. The Youth Council's scare house will be October 24 and 25. They would like to have a sheriff officer to help monitor traffic on those nights. They invite all to come and support because this is their fundraiser to attend leadership conference. Jake Christiansen will get hay bales for the maze. The youth council agreed to clean the town hall's garbage cans for a fundraiser also.

5. Property Line Adjustment Agreement for 51 South Center/76 South 100 West review –

Mayor Mike Benson reviewed the proposed line adjustment. Eric Dursteler, town engineer, could not attend the meeting tonight but he is working on having the property surveyed and to find the location of the drain field and have an easement drawn.

Other business: Roland and Michelle Griffin asked if they could talk about plans for Clarke Park. They are helping to form a committee to suggest ideas on the development of Clarke Park. They asked if there is a budget. Mike Benson explained that he would like the committee to suggest design ideas and present to the town council for approval and then we would seek funding for projects. Michelle Griffin discussed trees, grants and asking residents if they would like to donate for trees or landscaping. The need for a grounds keeper was discussed. It was reported that Century Link will charge \$6,000 to decommission and remove the large trunk line going through the middle of Clarke Park. Possible project ideas were discussed such as, walking path, pavilion, splash pad, parking and fencing.

6. 4th Quarter Financial Statements review – Kathryn Rigby discussed items of income and expenses from the amended budget. Kathryn reviewed the town received \$5,552 in donations for

playground equipment. We also received a \$500 donation from the Bonneville Cycling Club. The Town Council would like to designate that donation towards playground equipment.

7. Building security, electronic locks, and security cameras (possible closed meeting)–

Steven Jenkins reviewed that Alltech came out and inspected buildings for security camera placement. Steven is waiting to hear back from them. However, they did say it was not possible to do radio broadcast for video surveillance and the security cameras would need to be hard-wired. A security video camera at the pickleball courts was discussed. The camera could be hard-wired at the Clarke park restroom building. Different options were discussed. Options for better security on the back door of the town hall were discussed. It was decided to start with the installation of a dead bolt lock on the back door. Steven Jenkins will look into it. Mike Benson will arrange for town hall septic tanks to be pumped.

Other business: Joe and Michelle Plainer asked to speak with the Town Council about concerns with the new pickleball courts. They feel it is too close to their house and do not like the loud noise and lights. Mike Benson discussed plans to install a sound dampening pad on the fence and looking at installing additional landscaping to dampen noise. The Plainers requested more restrictions on play times and no playing on Sunday. The Town Council will review and work on an ordinance on pickleball court times and will install sound damping pad for fence.

8. 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
- Jed Woodward – Water/Streets

Jake Christiansen reported that the library will hold a witches' story time on October 25. The Tree lighting and Santa visit will probably be December 3rd. Jake is looking at dates for the town appreciation dinner and will hold it at the town hall.

Steven Jenkins reported that he has arranged for an arborist to look at the trees at the park. Dan Jeppsen will not be working for a few weeks because of a planned surgery October 12. Steven will have someone else clean and plans to put together a cleaning checklist to make sure things are getting cleaned. Brett Petersen reported that Planning Commission did not meet last month because they didn't have enough to hold the meeting but they plan on still working on the animal ordinance.

The regular meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by:

Karla R. Ferguson, Newton Town Clerk

Approval Date