

Newton Town Council Meeting  
November 6, 2025, 7:00 P.M.  
Newton Town Hall, 51 South Center, Newton UT  
Minutes

**Agenda**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Opening Ceremony – Steven Jenkins
3. Approval of October 2, 2025, Minutes
4. Youth Council Update
5. “Merry & Bright” committee update, Holiday lights & Santa visit
6. Surplus tractor sealed bid opening
7. CCOG funding award \$202,649 for Center Street widening, Main to 100 South
8. Waste Management contract renewal
9. Town Employee Appreciation Dinner
10. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financial Statements review
11. Property Line Adjustment Agreement for 51 South Center/76 South 100 West review
12. 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: none Electronic attendance by Zoom: Jed Woodward

Karla Ferguson (Recorder) and Kathryn Rigby (Treasurer)

Others in attendance: Annette Benson, Sue Petersen, Craig Petersen, Craig Rigby, Michelle Plainer, Lisa Bleazard, Cass Bleazard, Ellie Yeates, Eirc Dursteler, Jeremy Cooley, Reid Smith and Sarah Rigby.

**2. Opening ceremony** conducted by Steven Jenkins.

**3. The Newton Town Council meeting minutes for October 2, 2025, were approved.**

**4. Youth Council Update** – Ellie Yeates reported the Newton Youth Council made about \$2,500 at their scare house fundraiser (not including expenses) and that it went well. Sue Petersen asked if the Youth Council could help put up holiday lights. Ellie Yeates agreed to have the youth council help.

**5. “Merry & Bright” committee update, Holiday lights & Santa visit** – Sue Petersen told the Town Council they plan to turn on holiday lights at 6:00 p.m. on December 3. They plan to have Santa at the library 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. but don’t know if they will have reindeer this year. Craig Petersen said the Newton youth council helps a lot and he appreciates their help. Craig is working on putting lights on the pine tree and will have Jed Woodward help with the lift. To replace the LED bulbs are \$2 each and Craig has had to replace a lot this year so far. There are over 2,000 lights on the large pine tree. Craig Petersen discussed storage for all of the holiday decorations. They need more space for storage and want to look at purchasing a 20’ shipping container. The cost would be about \$2,700 to \$2,800. They would also like to install a power panel in the town right-of-way closer to the large tree on Center Street. The purchase of a storage container and where to place it will be put on the December agenda.

**Other business:** Mayor Mike Benson asked those in attendance if they wanted to discuss the pickleball courts. Michelle Plainer said she would like to know where the Town Council is at with

addressing the noise. Lisa Bleazard is a neighbor to the pickleball courts, and she does not like the noise. Mayor Mike Benson explained that the Town Council plans to purchase sound damping mats to put on the fence. Cass and Lisa Bleazard and Michelle Plainer complained that it wouldn't be sufficient and want something more done. They asked to be placed on the agenda next month. Mike Benson asked if they would call him when it is noisy so he can come over to hear it.

**6. Surplus tractor sealed bid opening** – Two bids were received for the tractor. One bid was for \$601 and the second bid for \$763. The winning bid of \$763 was from Casey Archibald. Karla Ferguson will contact them to let them know they had the winning bid.

**7. CCOG funding award \$202,649 for Center Street widening, Main to 100 South** – Eric Dursteler reported that we applied for and were awarded funding for road widening of Center Street from Main to 100 South. The award will cover 93% of the cost. The project plan is to tear up the existing road, replace with 5" asphalt, and improve the shoulders of the road. When they tear out the existing road, they will look for existing manholes and drain lines that have been covered and will address those. The award is for the 2027 transportation project year.

**8. Waste Management contract renewal:** Mayor Benson presented the contract that has been approved by the Cache Waste Consortium with Waste Management. The new contract will also increase rates. It was decided by the Town Council to hold a special town council meeting next week to adopt new garbage collection rates that will be effective December 1. Green waste fees were discussed. Mike Benson will ask for clarification of green waste fees and contact Cache County to see if they will share the cost of a green waste dumpster. The renewal of the contract was discussed. The renewed contract goes until 2033.

**9. Town Employee Appreciation Dinner:** Jake Christiansen said he plans to have the town dinner at the town hall on December 15 at 6:30. Jake will look at options for catering.

**10. 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financial Statements review:** Kathryn Rigby reported that the Town received \$155,00 in RAPZ reimbursements. Kathryn presented the first quarter financial statements and noted that not everything that needs to be rolled over to last fiscal year has been completed. Kathryn discussed confusion that she has heard over town spending. Kathryn clarified grants that have been used to purchase auto read meters and RAPZ grants and donations for the pickleball courts and playground equipment. Kathryn explained the savings CDs (Certificate of Deposit) that the town has. And explained how Tom Barker's donation is in a separate CD earmarked for a new emergency services building and has not been spent. Kathryn explained Public Treasurer Investment Funds (PTIF) that the town has. Kathryn asked the Town Council to please meet with her over any questions on town financials.

**11. Property Line Adjustment Agreement for 51 South Center/76 South 100 West review:** Eric Dursteler reported he has had the property surveyed. They looked for the drain field and found the tank for the metal building. Eric will have the drain field drawn with a proposed easement for the new property line.

## 12. 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

Mayor Benson reported that he would like to lock the pickleball courts for the winter and pursue the purchase of a sound damping barrier for the fence. He would like to remind people that no scooters are allowed on the courts. Jake Christiansen reported the Youth Council's scare house went well and Santa will be at the Library on December 3. They will arrange for the fire department to deliver Santa. Jake reported for Jed Woodward that they are planning on replacing 1500' feet of drain line from the water tank to 8-inch pipe. Jed is also working on fixing a leak on 100 West. Jed Woodward called on phone because of technical difficulties with ZOOM and said the estimate from Rupp Construction for 8-inch pipe is \$7 a foot and \$42 a foot for labor. Newton Town will do the work ourselves cheaper. Jed asked to put drain line item on next week's special meeting agenda. Brett Petersen said the Planning Commission did not meet last month. Steven Jenkins reported he has received quotes from Alltech for security cameras. They suggest placing a camera on a pole at the park to cover the playground area. They also proposed putting a zoom camera on the building to better see the tennis court. To install a system at the pickleball courts is \$9,000. Different camera options were discussed. It was decided not to decide now because it is a lot of money. The outside bathrooms have not been winterized yet.

The regular meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by:

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Karla R. Ferguson, Newton Town Clerk

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Approval Date