

Newton Town Council Meeting  
March 5, 2020, 7:00 P.M.  
Newton Town Hall, 51 South Center, Newton UT  
Minutes

Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Opening Ceremony
3. Approval of January 2020 Minutes
4. Cyber Security by Jeff Young
5. Arbor Day Tree request by Newton Literary Group
6. Engineer reviews needed for development and subdivision
7. Farm land lease review
8. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments

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

Members present: Mayor Kevin Rhodes, Gordon Anderson, Kent Fabricius, Kathryn Rigby, and Jed Woodward, Karla Ferguson (Recorder)

Others present: Sarah Rigby, Zachary Thurgood, Von Brown, Jeff Young, Dave Jones, Flo Jones, Martin Empey, Ilda Berge, Annette Benson and Deputy Kevin Bennett.

Youth Council is excused because they are attending leadership conference.

**2. Opening ceremony** conducted by Mayor Rhodes

**3. The Newton Town Council February meeting minutes** were approved.

**4. Cyber Security by Jeff Young** – Jeff Young, President of Alltech Computer Systems and Mayor of Richmond discussed balancing computer security and costs for small town municipalities. Alltech provides computer support for our town office and library, as well as, for many communities in the valley. Because of the challenges of security threats and breaches and preventive measures being more cost effective they have developed security packages for small towns. The package would include firewalls, antivirus software, management of devices and switches, monitoring, updates, email scans, and email archive. Newton Town would be responsible for all hardware updates but no hardware updates are needed at this time. They will send the package costs for the Town Council to think about.

**Other business:** Deputy Bennett confirmed that the Town Celebration will be July 24 and 25, 2020. He will get it scheduled with the Cache County Sheriff Department. Cache County Sheriff Jensen plans to attend the April 9 Town Council meeting to discuss the inter-local agreement with the Sheriff Department.

**5. Arbor Day Tree request by Newton Literary Group** – Ilda Berge and Annette Benson asked if the Newton Literary Group could plant a tree at the park for Arbor Day. The Town Council agreed and recommended replacing a tree at the park that has died. It was discussed that the Youth Council could help remove the dead tree and plant the new tree. The Newton Literary Group will purchase the tree upon recommendation from Colleen Woodward. The town will have the dead tree removed by April 24 so a new tree can be planted on April 25 as part of the Town Clean-up day.

**6. Engineer reviews needed for development and subdivision** – Gordon Anderson recommends that we have an engineer consultant arranged to review the upcoming proposed subdivisions. Gordon feels that the subdivision on the north side of town needs an engineer review for the culverts and water

drainage needed for the proposed subdivision. The Town Council discussed that Matt Phillips, Cache County Civil Engineer, has agreed to review plans for us. The developer should have the proposed plans engineered then our Engineer consultant will review the plans.

**7. Farm land lease review** – Kent Fabricius discussed that the town received 4 bids to lease the farm land. The bids will be opened after Town Council meeting. Kent discussed that the adjoining property has been sold. This land shares the water pump with the town's land. A lease agreement for water and pump expenses will need to be drawn up. We will need legal counsel to review it.

**8. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments –**

Dave Jones asked about the farm land purchase. It was explained to him. Von Brown said that Terry Griffin would like to help build a horse arena.

Jed Woodward reported on attending the annual Utah Rural Water conference. Jed discussed that we have applied for an auto read water meter grant. The water smart grant is for \$75,000. The total proposed project cost to upgrade all meters to auto read would be approximately \$200,000. Jed asked if the Town Council would support the grant. **Newton Town Council supports pursuing the grant for auto read water meters.** Mayor Rhodes asked Sunrise Engineering to do a risk assessment on our water pipe line. Sunrise Engineering estimates that to replace the entire line from Clarkston to the water tank would cost \$1.6 million. To only replace the line from the springs through Clarkston then tie into the Looslie Buttars spring line would cost \$1 million. Mayor Rhodes would like to apply for a grant to replace the pipe line after the water meter project.

Dave Jones asked if sand bags are available. He is worried about flooding along 400 West or Highway 23. Jed Woodward will follow up with Utah Department of Transportation about installing culverts along the Highway.

Kathryn Rigby reported that the Easter Egg Hunt will be April 11. Town Clean-up day is scheduled for April 25. Youth Council is currently attending a leadership conference at Utah State University.

Gordon Anderson thinks that the area north of the Post Office should be included in the Town Clean-up Day projects. Gordon attended the Cache County disaster mitigation meeting. A community packet will be arriving soon about a disaster mitigation plan.

Kent Fabricius plans to arrange for some contractors to look at our furnaces and give us some ideas and options on replacing them.

Kevin Rhodes reported that Casey Barker is moving and we will need to arrange for someone to mow the lawn in front of the Town Hall. Kevin plans to renew the lawn mowing contract for the park. Kevin is looking into businesses to apply fertilizer and pesticide for the park. Kevin reported that we have been informed that Logan environmental is discontinuing our summer long green waste bin. We will only have the green waste bin in the months of April and October. The Mayor has been asking questions from Logan City to see what options for green waste are. The Mayor asked that any ideas for green waste be emailed to him. The costs for AllTech computer security program were discussed. The computer security program will be on next month's agenda for a vote.

Gordon Anderson proposes to appoint Barry Myers to the Newton Planning Commission with an alternative of David Salisbury. Randy Christensen has agreed to serve on the Planning Commission. Newton Town Council is okay with those proposed.

Next month's meeting will be changed to April 9.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by:

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Karla R. Ferguson, Newton Town Clerk

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Approval Date