Newton Planning Commission Meeting
August 11, 2022, 7:00 P.M.
Newton Town Hall, 51 South Center, Newton UT
Minutes

Agenda
1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Opening Ceremony Reid Smith
3. Approval of July 2022, minutes
4. Draft Animal Ordinance Review
5. Review research for water exaction
6. Adjournment

1. Roll Call
Members present: Justin Cooley, Martin Empey, Reid Smith. Absent: Rich Olsen and Barry Myers
Karla Ferguson - Recorder
Others present: Brett Petersen

2. Opening Ceremony – Reid Smith

3. Minutes for July 2022, approved.

4. Draft Animal Ordinance Review – Martin Empey discussed that Mayor Benson has requested that the Newton Planning Commission address an animal ordinance because Mayor Benson has received complaints of too many animals on small parcels of land. The need for an animal ordinance to protect animal owners and neighbors was discussed. Reid Smith suggested that Planning Commission members review the email that was sent in March with all the different drafts and research for the animal ordinance, then come back next month ready to discuss it.

5. Review research for water exaction – Brett Petersen explained the temporary water connection moratorium based on scarcity of water that was implemented by the Newton Town Council on August 4 to run until October, when it will be re-evaluated. Brett Petersen reviewed what a water exaction could require. A water exaction could require a subdivider to provide a water resource and not just the infrastructure. Water exaction was discussed. Brett Petersen said that the proclamation for scarcity of water by the Newton Town Council will give them time to evaluate the water situation and make sure they have longer term changes to the ordinance to have necessary water control. The Newton Town Council intends to have the attorney at the next town council meeting to gather information and determine options for changes to our current ordinance for water.

Other business: Martin Empey asked that another workshop be held with the County Planner, Lauren Ryan, to work on the water exaction research and suggestions on September 8 at 6:00 p.m. Enforcement of an animal ordinance was discussed, and it was determined that should be included with the draft animal ordinance. The draft animal code and animal enclosures was discussed.
The meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by: _____ _____
Karla R. Ferguson, Newton Town Clerk Approval Date