

Newton Town Council Meeting
September 1, 2022, 7:00 P.M.
Newton Town Hall, 51 South Center, Newton UT
Minutes

Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Opening Ceremony – Brett Petersen
3. Approval of August 2022, Minutes
4. Newton Youth Council Update
5. Request for flooding mitigation measures – Carson Maughan
6. Loosle-Buttars Spring GWI Study update – Eric Dursteler
7. Review plan for installation of auto-read water meters
8. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments

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

Members present: Mayor Mike Benson, Jake Christiansen, Kent Fabricius, Brett Petersen, and Jed Woodward. Karla Ferguson (Recorder) and Kathryn Rigby (Treasurer)

Others present: Martin Empey, Sarah Rigby, Carson Maughan, Gordon Anderson, and Eric Dursteler. Electronic attendance was not available because internet in Newton was not working.

2. Opening ceremony conducted by Brett Petersen

3. The Newton Town Council meeting minutes for August 4, 2022, were approved.

4. Newton Youth Council Update – Not in attendance, item skipped.

5. Request for flooding mitigation measures – Carson Maughan said that last year the Newton Town Council discussed with the Newton Hills subdivision developer about a ditch or putting a berm on the north/west corner of town along 200 North to stop potential flooding from the north. Jed Woodward reviewed that a laser was used to determine the slope of the land in that area. Jed discussed that snow could be banked along the 200 North Road, if there is a lot of snow this winter, to direct water runoff towards the slough area. Carson Maughan said that neighbors have said that water flows where his new house currently sits. Jake Christiansen asked what the developer's responsibility for flood mitigation is. Brett Petersen reviewed the Newton subdivision code 10-1-23 section 5 which says to provide for disposal of storm water drainage. Gordon Anderson reviewed what was discussed with the developer for phase 1 and that the 200 North development would occur in phase 2 with a ditch along the new 200 North Road. Brett Petersen asked about a temporary ditch being dug along the current 200 North area. Jed Woodward discussed berm or ditch ideas. Mike Benson asked that the Town Council investigate some potential solutions and bring back ideas to the next town council meeting. Jed Woodward will investigate the 200 North area to see if there is something that could be done. Mike Benson will investigate some other solutions and bring back next month.

Agenda item 6 delayed until the arrival of Eric Dursteler

7. Review plan for installation of auto-read water meters – Mike Benson asked for the item to be on the agenda to get a plan in place for the replacement of meters. Mike asked Jed Woodward if there was something that the town council could do to help. Jed Woodward discussed that he is going to have Clarkston's auto-read meter installer, Brian Goodsell, help install our meters. Jed plans to devote more time to it when farming slows down. Jed reviewed that copper setter parts are not available right now and so if a setter needs to be replaced in an emergency, then they

would have to use galvanized pipe, which would then need to be replaced when parts become available. Jed said that new meters can be installed but we will need to be very careful not to break the setter. Since the year 2000 Newton has used copper settings but still have some galvanized setters still in operation. How to install auto-read meters was reviewed. Jed reviewed that he went to the water control tower today and read spring flows. The Loosle-Buttars spring was at 14 gpm and 188 gpm from the Big Birch springs complex. Jed said this is the lowest water flow he has every seen from the springs. Jed said the Big Birch was at 205 gpm earlier in the summer. He said this is a significant drop from what he has seen before. Mike Benson asked about if the control tower panel needed to be replaced for more accurate readings. Jed Woodward reviewed that they have upgraded the pressure sustaining valves, but the meters need to be upgraded. Water meter billing was also discussed.

6. Loosle-Buttars Spring GWI Study update – Because the internet is not working Eric Dursteler was not able to show his presentation. Eric Dursteler reviewed the study that has just been completed by Willowstick of the Loosle-Buttars spring area. Eric discussed how the study was initially conducted with electromagnetic pulse. The electromagnetic pulse did not work because of all the metal pipe in the ground that throws off the report. Willowstick then conducted a gamma response study. The gamma response map shows water has found another path around the current spring collection area. Eric Dursteler reviewed the geology of the area and conclusions of the study. The recommendation is to drill a well 160 to 170 feet to a spring well site in that area. The next step would be to drill a test well to verify the findings. Jake Christiansen asked if the test well could determine the quality of water. Eric Dursteler explained that yes it would be able to identify the quality of water, and this is also a spring well source. Eric explained the channels and depths of water and state requirements for wells. The State would require a minimum depth of at least 100 feet. Mike Benson asked if they decided to go forward with a test well are there grants available. Eric said the state does issue funding for test wells. Eric will follow up on information for funding. Companies that can do a test well were discussed. Eric doesn't think the well would need to be drilled past 200 feet. A test well would cost approximately \$55,000 and about \$200,000 to develop the well. After that would be the cost to add a pump. It could be set up to only pump when needed. Eric Dursteler reviewed the requirements for a well permit. Part of the process would be a source protection plan that would need landowners' agreement. Funding options were discussed. Mike Benson asked that the study be presented to the water committee for their recommendation. Mike will contact rural water association for source protection plan information. Eric Dursteler will present the study to the water committee and follow up on grant information.

8. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments– Mike Benson reported that he plans to follow up on people living in trailers on properties. Secondary dwellings were discussed. It was determined that an item on no secondary dwellings allowed or trailer living should be addressed in the town newsletter. Jake Christiansen reported that Pam Hill has been appointed as Library board president. The library is looking at scheduling Santa to visit the library on November 30. Jake reported that the Youth Council went to Bear Lake for an overnight retreat with training on leadership. Kent Fabricius reported that the farmland lease has been extended for another year. Brett Petersen reported the Planning Commission is actively moving forward on a draft animal ordinance and water exaction. Brett explained the background on the draft animal ordinance. It was discussed that the town right-of-way ordinance may need to be clarified with some additional standards. Mike Benson asked if the Planning Commission would look into the town right-of-way ordinances and make suggestions or clarifications. Mike Benson will arrange for the town attorney, Seth Tait, to attend next month's meeting to discuss water ordinance questions. Jed Woodward reported that an inspection was conducted on the 200 N 200 E intersection project. The contractor plans to chip/seal the road and clean up the shoulders of the road. Jed Woodward

will talk to the homeowners about the shoulder work. The contractor plans to reseed with grass later this fall. Eric Dursteler will act as liaison with owners and the contractor, Parsons, about what to address along the road shoulder. Jed Woodward reported that the chip/seal completed this summer has had an oil seal put on top of it to try it out. It was discussed about applying to CCCOG next year for road projects. Mayor Benson reported that a committee is working on an interlocal agreement for garbage collection. The current garbage collection done by Logan City ends next summer. Smithfield, Richmond, and Lewiston have pulled out of the interlocal agreement that they are currently working on. Those Cities plan to go on their own for garbage collection. Mike Benson will present the interlocal agreement next month to the Town Council.

Meeting adjourned.

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

Approval Date