

Newton Town Council Meeting
May 4, 2023, 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 April 12, 2023, Minutes
4. Presentation by Utah Waste Management, Blake Leonelli
5. Report on water meter installation, data, water test well, and water code
6. 2023-3034 CCCOG project application for Center Street
7. Public Hearing for Newton election code, Ordinance 2023-01
8. Ordinance 2023-01, Election code
9. Reservation rental policy review
10. 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: Sarah Rigby, Carrie Milligan, Gaylen Maughan, Jagger Draper, Marisa Draper, Eric Dursteler, Tom Pitcher, Jeremy Cooley, Dave Jenkins, Terrie Jenkins, and Kevin Rhodes. Newton Youth Council members were also present for the beginning of the meeting. Electronic attendance by Zoom: None

2. Opening ceremony conducted by Brett Petersen

3. The Newton Town Council meeting minutes for April 12, 2023, were approved.

Other business: Newton Youth Council gave an update on activities they have been involved with. Anna Ferguson reported that the Newton Youth Council attended the USU leadership Conference and thanked the Town Council for their support of the Youth Council. The youth council also helped with the Easter Egg Hunt and Town Clean-up Day.

4. Presentation by Utah Waste Management – The presenter was unable to attend this meeting and will present at a future meeting.

5. Report on water meter installation, data, water test well, and water code – It was reported that half of the auto-read meters have been installed to date. Jed Woodward is working with Neptune to begin radio identification and reading. The water test well at Loosle-Buttars springs has not begun. The well rig will be brought in on May 9 and will begin drilling the following day. Jake Christiansen reported he has tried contacting the LDS church about switching the Newton LDS church building to secondary water for the sprinkling system and Jake has not heard back from them yet. Jed Woodward plans to order the filter system for Newton Park. Jed Woodward discussed that the LDS church may not have secondary water shares for the church building or an installed secondary water line. Kevin Rhodes reviewed the lease agreement for the ball diamond was terminated by Newton Town with the LDS church. The sprinkling systems for the town park and the ball diamond were connected because of the lease and have not been separated. There was a discussion concerning the park sprinkling system and location of secondary water pipelines. Brett Petersen reviewed the draft water exaction code proposal. The Newton planning commission will continue to work on the draft water exaction code next month. Brett Petersen asked for Town Council members to review the draft water exaction code and send comments to him. After the Planning Commission completes the draft code, they will have the town attorney review it. Mike

Benson reviewed questions he submitted to the town attorney for Newton's code and scarcity of water. One of the questions was if a building permit for a new home can be issued without a water connection. The building inspector said the state would require the provision of water if granted a building permit. Mike Benson will seek further clarification on that question. Seth Tait, the town attorney, suggested using good data to support decisions regarding the scarcity of water. Kent Fabricius asked for data on if large users of culinary water are switched to secondary water for outside watering how many new water connections could that support. The data being used to support scarcity of water, spring water flow and metering was discussed. Eric Dursteler will notify the town council with test well results as soon as it is available. Mike Benson plans to follow up with the town attorney to clarify some questions.

6. 2023-3034 CCCOG project application for Center Street – Mike Benson reviewed the project ranking process and application dates for road projects with the Cache County Council of Governments (CCCOG). Eric Dursteler said a small portion of the funding is set aside for small town projects and the council favors projects that address safety concerns. It was reviewed to expand Center Street pavement to 36 feet wide to accommodate traffic and parking along Center Street from Main Street to 200 South. Eric Dursteler will arrange for a survey and plan to be completed and then a public hearing for the project should be held. The cost of the survey and plan for the application will cost \$2,250. Gordon Anderson asked about a parcel on Center Street on 200 North. Eric Dursteler will get a cost estimate for a survey and legal description to correct the town right-of-way on Center Street 200 North. Mike Benson will talk to Stephen Griffin about splitting the fee of the survey and getting it recorded.

7. Public Hearing for Newton election code, Ordinance 2023-01– Mike Benson opened the public hearing for election code. Kent Fabricius asked about the Utah Code it references. Utah code regarding elections was discussed. No other public comment was made. The public hearing was closed.

8. Ordinance 2023-01, Election code – Brett Petersen made a motion to accept ordinance 2023-01 Election Code. Jake Christiansen seconds the motion.

Ordinance 2023-01 Election Code

CHAPTER 1-7 ELECTIONS

1-7-1 Conduct Of Municipal Elections

1-7-1 Conduct Of Municipal Elections

All elections of town officers and other elections conducted within Newton shall be in accordance with the Utah Election Code, as set forth in [U.C.A. 1953, title 20A](#).

Roll call vote: Jake Christiansen – yes

Mike Benson – yes

Brett Petersen – yes

Kent Fabricius – yes

Jed Woodward - yes

9. Reservation rental policy review – The new policy was reviewed. The town council discussed listing groups that could apply for a fee waiver or exemptions for Newton organizations. It was decided to research how other communities waive fees or exemptions. Council members were encouraged to do some research and bring results to next month's meeting about fee exemptions.

10. Report on Mayor/Council Member Assignments

- Mayor Benson – Animal Control/Administration/Nuisance/Parks
- Jake Christiansen – Library/Special Events/Youth Council
- Kent Fabricius – Buildings/Land Management
- Brett Petersen – Planning/Fire Dept./EMS
- Jed Woodward – Water/Streets

Mike Benson discussed that he has received complaints about dogs that he plans to follow up with the owner. Mike Benson discussed Newton code 5-1-10 and changes needed to comply with Utah code for changing animal misdemeanors to infractions. The Utah code this refers to is 10-3-703. Mike Benson reviewed the town right-of-way code. Mike Benson would like the planning commission to review this code and make recommendations on if it needs to be updated. Jake Christiansen thanked everyone with help on the town clean-up day. Bark was installed under the playground equipment. Cabinets were installed in the pavilion kitchen. Jake Christiansen will follow up with Cody Bartlett about moving the old pavilion kitchen shelves. Jake will also follow up on installing tennis court nets. Green waste will not be done by Logan City this season. The coalition for garbage collection is still negotiating with waste management on green waste services. Mike Benson will follow up on collection of green waste fees and services. Kent Fabricius reported that he will be setting up a meeting with Alltech for camera installation. Kent Fabricius reviewed spring water source protection and would like to include source protection in the farmland lease agreement. Eric Dursteler will gather the allowable amounts table and information for source protection to include in lease agreements. Brett Petersen discussed that Reid Smith's term with the Newton Planning Commission has come to an end. Brett proposed that Cass Bleazard be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Planning Commission. All town council members agreed with the appointment. Jake Christiansen is still looking for co-chairs for the town celebration committee. Brett Petersen is still looking into funding and fundraising for a new fire station. Eric Dursteler suggested checking with the American Fire Fighting grant. Jed Woodward is still working on installing auto-read meters. Jed has worked with Cache County in identifying 7 blocks for chip and seal this summer. Eric Dursteler and Jed Woodward will meet with Staker Parson for a final inspection of the 200 North 200 East intersection. Jed Woodward plans to purchase filters and valves through Peterson Plumbing for the park sprinkler system. Funds from RAPZ will be used for the purchase. Jake Christiansen said the Newton library celebrated its 25th birthday on May 1. The library had 145 kids and 56 adults attend their celebration party. Lights on the outside of the town hall building were discussed.

Meeting adjourned.

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