

**CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 11, 2018**

The Newton City Commission convened in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on September 11, 2018 at City Hall, 201 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Attending were Mayor Valentine, Vice Mayor Koehn, Commissioners Davis, and Kreie, City Manager Myers, Assistant City Manager McElroy, City Attorney Towle, Director of Finance Pickman, City Engineer/DPW Loomis, Director of Communications McDaniel, Deputy Chief Dunlavy, Chief Metzler, Chief Murphy and City Clerk Duerksen. Commissioner Hague was absent.

Pastor Donna Voteau with Trinity Heights United Methodist Church provided the invocation. The Mayor then led in the Pledge of Allegiance and presided over the items of business.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

1. **Consider approval of the minutes of the August 28 work session and regular meeting and the September 6 agenda review minutes.**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Koehn moved and Commissioner Davis seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

2. **Recognition of community service and achievement:**

- A. **Recognize Gracie Hendrickson for winning the national title of Princess of America Junior Ambassador.**

Gracie Hendrickson was recognized for winning the national title of Princess of America Junior Ambassador. Her title is an optional one given by Princess of America in recognition of all Gracie's community service work.

3. **Consider a proclamation declaring September 17-23 as Constitution Week.**

Glenda Golden with the Daughters of American Revolution read the proclamation declaring the week of September 17-23, 2018 as Constitution Week.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Kreie moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded to approve the proclamation as read. Motion carried.

4. **Consider a request to close the alley behind Midland Bank and a special event request for use of picnic tables and trash receptacles of September 14 for Midland Bank's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Davis moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded to approve closing the alley behind Midland Bank and to waive the special event fees. Motion carried.

5. **Consider a request to close 1<sup>st</sup> Street from Beverly to Grandview and Grandview from 1<sup>st</sup> Street to the entrance of Athletic Park for the NHS Homecoming Parade on September 28 from 4:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Kreie seconded to approve the street closing request as presented. Motion carried.

6. **Receive a special event request for picnic tables and trash containers for Hot Dog Feast and music on September 20 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in Krehbiel Park.**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Koehn moved and Commissioner Davis seconded to waive the special event fees for picnic tables and trash containers for the event in Krehbiel Park. Motion carried.

7. **Receive a request from SafeHope to close Oak Street from 4<sup>th</sup> Street to the alley for Oktoberfest on October 2 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Davis moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded to approve the street closing request as presented. Motion carried.

8. **Receive a request for a temporary alcohol permit for SafeHope Oktoberfest on October 2nd.**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Koehn moved and Commissioner Davis seconded to approve the temporary alcohol permit as presented. Motion carried.

9. **Receive a request for a temporary alcohol permit for the Blues, Brews & Barbecue on October 6th.**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Kreie moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded to approve the temporary alcohol permit as presented. Motion carried.

10. **Special Assessments**

- A. **7:00 p.m. Conduct public hearing to receive public input on proposed special assessments on completed improvement projects.**

**Fieldstone Water (WD 19-K)  
Fieldstone Sewer (SD 31-J)  
Fieldstone Street Phase 2**

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 7:22 p.m. There being no one to speak the hearing was closed at 7:23 p.m.

- B. **Consider an Ordinance levying the special assessments for projects.**

An Ordinance levying special assessments on certain property to pay the costs of internal improvements in the City of Newton, Kansas, as heretofore authorized by Resolution Nos. I-

1170, I-1171 and I-1172 of the City; and providing for the collection of such special assessments was considered.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Davis moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded this Ordinance, assigned 4970-18, be approved as presented. Motion carried.

**11. Continue discussion about the municipal swimming pool.**

At the last meeting, it was suggested a scientific survey be done in order to know what the citizens want for amenities, not only at the pool but within the City. The survey will be discussed at the next meeting. Staff will need direction from the Commission if they want to take more time before making a decision on permanent changes to the pool and whether to proceed next year with replacement of some of the failing parts.

The new interlocal agreement was presented to the school board, who asked for a tweak in language. They would like the wording to say they are willing to consider a .20 mill increase for funding of the pool. Staff will present the new agreement at the next meeting.

**12. Receive and consider approval of improvements to Klein-Scott Field as proposed by the Newton Recreation Commission.**

Staff presented a list of improvements the NRC is proposing for Klein-Scott Field. They will build a concrete pad and add new bleachers and shade structures for a cost of \$64,922.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Kreie moved and Commissioner Davis seconded to approve the proposed improvements. Motion carried.

**13. Receive staff's recommendations for local transportation priorities to be presented to the Joint Legislative Transportation Vision Task Force at their October 4, 2018, meeting at the Meridian Center in Newton.**

The Joint Legislative Transportation Vision Task Force will be hosting a series of meetings around the State to solicit local input on existing uncompleted projects and future projects in each highway and metropolitan district. Staff has developed a list of projects and issues which are proposed to be highlighted through the City's testimony and presentation. Those include: 36<sup>th</sup> Street and I-135 Interchange (this has been on the KDOT priority list); US-50 and Meridian Interchange (oldest in Newton, ramps are not compliant with today's standards); Continued US-50 improvements; Federal Fund Exchange Dollars (support maintaining the current exchange rate of 90 cents on the dollar); Passenger Rail Service (support continued funding of the Southwest Chief line and expansion of the Heartland Flyer line); Rail Dollars (extension of rail to the KLP); Airport Dollars (support continuing and expanding this funding stream); Continued Maintenance Dollars for K-15; Continued Funding of State Bridge Funds (helps with repair of local bridges). Various cities are working on speaking as one single voice for the region.

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Koehn moved and Commissioner Kreie seconded to accept staff recommendation for the local transportation priorities. Motion carried.

**14. Receive bids and award contract for water and sewer improvements to Rolling Hills 6<sup>th</sup> Addition.**

Bids were received for the extension of water to serve Rolling Hills 6<sup>th</sup> Addition. Staff recommended awarding the contract to the low bidder, Nowak Construction.

<b>BIDDER</b>	<b>BID AMOUNT</b>
Nowak Construction	\$106,674.85
McCullough Excavation	\$115,500.00
Dondlinger & Sons	\$120,452.00
Mies Construction	\$138,809.00
Middlecreek Corp.	\$150,128.00
<b>Engineer's Estimate</b>	<b>\$127,848.00</b>

**MOTION:** Commissioner Davis moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded to accept the bids and award the contract to Nowak Construction in the amount of \$106,674.85. Motion carried.

The bids received for sewer were significantly over the engineer's estimate due to the underground conditions. Staff has talked with the developer, and some re-engineering has been done and a new petition submitted in the amount of \$143,000. The new engineer's estimate is \$94,955.20.

<b>BIDDER</b>	<b>BID AMOUNT</b>
Nowak Construction	\$141,540.35
Middlecreek Corp.	\$143,928.00
Dondlinger & Sons	\$156,264.00
Mies Construction	\$200,607.00
<b>Engineer's Estimate</b>	<b>\$ 86,547.40</b>

**MOTION:** Commissioner Kreie moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded to accept the new petition and revised engineer's estimate. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Davis moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded to authorize staff to negotiate with the low bidder for a construction price within the revised engineer's estimate and to authorize staff to approve the contract if negotiations are successful. Motion carried.

**15. City Manager's Update.**

- Upcoming events were shared.
- A joint meeting with the Harvey County Commission was held to go over current cost estimates for remodeling the law enforcement center. The consensus was to move forward and look at an agreement for improvements.
- With the passing of Rod Nicholson, an appointment to fill his position on the EDC board will be needed.

- Centennial Park improvements are complete.
- The City and Rec Center staff will be meeting with baseball/softball organizers regarding the proposed ballfield improvements to Centennial Park.
- REAP will be holding an economic development summit on November 1<sup>st</sup> at the WSU Metroplex. The keynote speaker will be Tim Cowden with the Kansas City Area Development Council.
- Staff is working with representatives of the region on transportation priorities.
- Updates were given on City personnel. Fire/EMS peer fitness team hosted the Fueled by Fire Fun Run to raise money for the Harvey County Chaplain response team. Darrel Graves, Phil Beebe and Lucas McNally participated in the 110 floor climb in Kansas City to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the events of 9/11. The Police Department is now fully staffed. Authorization has been given to post the new drug detective position budgeted for in 2019. Mary Melvin, utility billing clerk, will be retiring on September 28 after 28 years of service to the City. Matt Pope and Joe Schroeder participated in the APWA heavy equipment rodeo. They placed 7<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> respectively.
- Airport Taxiway C is complete. The EDC is finalizing the video to promote the Airport.
- Harvey County Council of Governments will meet on Wednesday. Willis Heck, who has been the facilitator of the group, is resigning that role. City staff will take over his responsibilities.
- The Library Visioning Task Force will meet on Wednesday.
- The manager's annual review will continue at the next work session.


**16. Citizen's Forum.**

There was no one to speak.


In other business, a request was made that citizens include a phone number for a return call when contacting Commissioners by email. The Chamber annual banquet is September 13 and Larry Snodgrass will be the speaker.

**17. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

  
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 Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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 City Clerk