

**CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 23, 2019**

The Newton City Commission convened in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on April 23, 2019 at City Hall, 201 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Attending were Mayor Valentine, Vice Mayor Koehn, Commissioners Davis, Hague and Kreie, City Manager Myers, Assistant City Manager McElroy, City Attorney Towle, City Engineer/DPW Loomis, Director of Finance Pickman, Director of Communications McDaniel, Chief Metzler, Chief Murphy and City Clerk Duerksen.

The Mayor provided the invocation and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance and presided over the items of business.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. **Consider approval of the April 9 work session minutes and regular meeting.**
2. **Mayor's appointments:**

**Housing Authority - reappoint Cindy Simons; term ending 4-30-2023; Wholesale Water District #17 - reappoint Gary Denny, term ending 4-30-2022; Library Board - reappoint Davis Jackson II, term ending 4-30-2023; appoint Richard Stinnet, term ending 4-30-2022.**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Koehn moved and Commissioner Kreie seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

3. **Recognition of community service and achievement**
  - A. **Recognize 2019 Newton Area Women of the Year: Val Gleason, Lynnette Hendrickson, and Christa Jahay.**

The Commission recognized the 2019 Newton Area Women of the Year. This years' recipients were Val Gleason, Lynette Hendrickson and Christa Jahay.

4. **Consider a proclamation declaring the week of May 6-12, 2019 as Music Week in Newton.**

Eileen Kloster read the proclamation declaring the week of May 16-12, 2019 as National Music Week. She noted the Treble Clef Club has given \$13,750 in scholarships to three high school seniors and five college music majors.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Kreie moved and Commissioner Hague seconded to accept the proclamation as presented. Motion carried.

5. **Receive a proclamation declaring April 25, 2019 as Arbor Day in Newton.**

Jackie Krehbiel, Park Horticulturist, read the proclamation declaring April 25 as Arbor Day in Newton. In 2018, the City was named a Tree City USA for the 43<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year. Newton is one of only four cities in Kansas and one of sixteen cities in the nation that has been named a Tree City USA since the inception of the program.

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

**6. Receive a proclamation declaring the week of May 12-18, 2019 as National Police Week & May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day.**

Chief Murphy read the proclamation declaring the May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day and the week of 12-18 as National Police Week.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Hague moved and Commissioner Kreie seconded to accept the proclamation as presented. Motion carried.

**7. Receive a proclamation declaring the week of May 19-25, 2019 as Public Works Week.**

Public Works Director Loomis read the proclamation declaring the week of May 19-25, 2019 as National Public Works Week. Presentations from the public works departments will be given to the third-grade classes at Northridge.

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

**8. Consider a request to waive the special event fees for Blues, Brews & Barbeque on September 28, 2019.**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Kreie moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded to waive the fees for the Blues, Brews & Barbeque event. Motion carried.

**9. Consider an application for a cereal malt beverage license for Jump Start Stores #18 located at 1608 East 1st Street.**

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Koehn moved and Commissioner Hague seconded to approve the application for a cereal malt beverage license for Jump Start Stores #18. Motion carried.

**10. Discuss Sunday sales of cereal malt beverages.**

Staff was approached about allowing Sunday alcohol sales within the City. Should the Commission adopt an Ordinance allowing Sunday sales, there would be a 60-day protest period after the second publication. If a protest petition is filed with signatures from at least 5% of voters in the last presidential election (375 signatures), an election would be required.

Murray Anderson, owner of Anderson Liquor, told Commissioners that he used to be opposed to Sunday sales because it was a day off for his employees, but he has since changed his mind. Because many surrounding cities now allow Sunday sales, Anderson said it's time for Newton to make the change to stay competitive.

Lori Seron, north Dillons Manager, also spoke in support of Sunday sales, noting it would give shoppers a one stop shop. She also said it was time to move on.

Lance Gormley, 720 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, asked if the question could just be put on the November ballot to be voted on by the public.

Retail sales research by Buxton shows that 2018 sales of alcoholic beverages totaled \$7.1 million in Newton, with an estimated potential of \$2.8 million in additional sales. Presumably, allowing sales on Sunday would capture some of those potential sales. Following discussion for and against such a change, staff was directed to draft an Ordinance for consideration at the May 14 meeting.

**11. Consider a settlement agreement for repair of the Newton Recreation Center gym floor.**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Davis moved and Vice Mayor Koehn seconded to table this item to an upcoming meeting. Motion carried.

**12. Consider the Capital Improvement Program for 2020-2025.**

Staff presented an overview of the CIP during the work session, noting it was a working document that changed often. Any projects in the CIP not already approved, would have to come before the Commission for approval to move forward. The CIP is used to help budget for projects and move forward with maintenance projects.

**MOTION:** Vice Mayor Koehn moved and Commissioner Kreie seconded to approve the CIP for 2020-2025. Motion carried.

**13. City Manager's Update**

- The 2019 Newton Visitors Guide from the CVB is now out.
- The Summit League Women's Championship has wrapped up and was won by Denver University. The Men's Summit League Championship begins April 28-30. On May 7 the APT Professional Tour will begin at Sand Creek Station Golf Course.
- REAP regional conveying was held on April 18 where the impact of agriculture and agri-business on the South-Central Kansas economy was showcased.
- The new employee recruitment tools, which have been put into place, appear to be producing positive results. Staff is very pleased with the quality of candidates being attracted to our job openings.
- Chief Metzler conducted a seminar session at KEMSA on Multigenerational Leadership: Lessons We're Learning,

- A Fishing Derby organized by City employees will be held at Spring Lake Park on May 11<sup>th</sup> and will be co-sponsored by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

#### 14. Citizen's Forum

Laurie Hartke, 707 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke on behalf of Grand Central Senior Center. Their new director is securing several grants for the different programs that are being started. They will be asking for funds from the 2020 City Budget to help keep the lights on and pay the utilities. Ms. Hartke noted she will not support any Commission candidate who does not support grand central.

Norm Oding, 617 Allison, asked for use of the City parking lot at 121 East 6<sup>th</sup> for a new farmers market. He was informed to fill out a special event application.

In other business, citizens were reminded of the possible mill increase for 2020. A report for the LKM Mayors conference was received. On May 3 and 4, third graders will be at City Hall learning about City government.

#### 15. Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.



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Mayor

ATTEST:        ,



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City Clerk