MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
January 10, 2017 – 7 p.m.
The regular meeting of the Newton City Council was held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at Newton City Hall.

PRESENT: Mayor Anne P. Stedman, Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver, and Council Members Tom Rowe, Jerry Hodge, Wes Weaver, Robert C. Abernethy, Jr., and Jody Dixon

STAFF: City Manager Todd Clark, City Clerk Amy S. Falowski, City Attorney John Cilley, City Department Heads and members of the management team

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Anne P. Stedman welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Mayor Stedman thanked Police Chief Don Brown and the Newton Police Department for their hard work for the past two years on the Maggie Daniels case. She stated that she and the City Council were grateful to the Police Department and all agencies involved.

ITEM 2: OPENING Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Council Member Tom Rowe provided the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Upon motion duly made by Council Member Robert C. Abernethy, Jr., seconded by Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Regular Minutes of the December 6, 2016 City Council meeting be – APPROVED

ITEM 4: CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
Upon motion duly made by Council Member Jerry Hodge, seconded by Council Member Jody Dixon, it was RESOLVED:

That the Consent Agenda be – APPROVED

A. Tax Releases
B. Sewer Adjustments
C. Consideration of Budget Ordinance Amendment for ElectriCities
D. Consideration of Budget Ordinance Amendment for Forensic Testing

(Ordinances, Resolutions and Proclamations are hereby referenced and on file in the Office of the City Clerk)

ITEM 5: COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: PEOPLE WHO WISH TO COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS ARE ASKED TO SIGN IN WITH THE CITY CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING.
Mayor Anne P. Stedman asked if anyone present would like to make comment concerning non-agenda items. No one appeared.
ITEM 6: Presentations

A. Parks and Recreation

Assistant City Manager Sean Hovis gave a presentation concerning future sites and information for a potential splash pad. Mr. Hovis showed several locations for a potential water feature, and gave comparisons of splash pads in other cities.

Council Member Robert Abernethy stated that Mr. Weaver wasn’t here last time council discussed parks, and added that he thought he would like to talk about workout facility expansion and whether that could be something to consider. He stated that a new workout facility would be something to keep citizens in Newton. Mr. Weaver stated that the current facility was small and outdated. Council Member John Stiver stated that some of the equipment is new. Mr. Abernethy mentioned that there is nowhere to change and that a locker facility is needed. Mayor Stedman stated that staff could research this, Mr. Weaver stated that would be good. Mr. Weaver added that this is an active community as far as citizens working out. Mr. Rowe stated that maybe staff could see what other cities are doing as far as running their own facilities.

ITEM 7: Public Hearing

A. To Consider an Installment Financing Agreement for Infrastructure Improvements

Mayor Stedman recessed the Council Meeting and called to order a Public Hearing as scheduled to receive public input on the consideration of an agreement for installment financing for infrastructure improvements.

Finance Director Serina Hinson stated that on December 9, 2016, bids were solicited for funding the Westside Drive Wastewater Infrastructure Project. Seven RFP’s were submitted to the following financial institutions: BB&T Governmental Finance, Wells Fargo, SunTrust Equipment Finance & Leasing Corp. (SunTrust), First Tennessee Commercial Banking, First Citizens Bank, Peoples Bank, and Regions Bank. Of the seven financial institutions solicited, two of these institutions provided a quote: BB&T Governmental Finance and Peoples Bank.

The bids were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Institution</th>
<th>Interest Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 Year Amortization ($1,400,000):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BB&amp;T Governmental Finance</td>
<td>3.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peoples Bank</td>
<td>2.67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BB&T Governmental Finance and Peoples Bank provided very attractive and competitive bids. Peoples Bank provided the lowest bid.

Ms. Hinson asked that City Council award Peoples Bank the bid.

Ms. Hinson asked that the City Council award the bid to provide financing to Peoples Bank for an amount not to exceed $1,400,000 at stated interest rate of 2.67% for 15 years, and adopt the Resolution Approving Financing Terms based on a 15 year amortization.

Mayor Stedman asked if there was anyone present that would like to speak in favor or against the proposed financing agreement. No one appeared.
Upon motion duly made by Council Member Wes Weaver, seconded by Council Member Tom Rowe, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Public Hearing be - CLOSED.

ITEM 8: Old Business

A. Consideration of Award of Financing Bid and Resolution Approving Financing Terms

Council Member Robert C. Abernethy, Jr. asked to be recused from voting on the award of bid to provide financing to Peoples Bank for an amount not to exceed $1,400,000 at stated interest rate of 2.67% for 15 years.

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Wes Weaver, seconded by Council Member Jerry Hodge, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That Robert C. Abernethy, Jr. be- RECUSED from voting on the award of bid to provide financing to Peoples Bank for an amount not to exceed $1,400,000 at stated interest rate of 2.67% for 15 years

Finance Director Serina Hinson stated that on December 9, 2016, bids were solicited for funding the Westside Drive Wastewater Infrastructure Project. Seven RFP’s were submitted to the following financial institutions: BB&T Governmental Finance, Wells Fargo, SunTrust Equipment Finance & Leasing Corp. (SunTrust), First Tennessee Commercial Banking, First Citizens Bank, Peoples Bank, and Regions Bank.

Ms. Hinson stated that of the seven financial institutions solicited, two of these institutions provided a quote: BB&T Governmental Finance and Peoples Bank.

The bids were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Institution</th>
<th>Interest Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 Year Amortization ($1,400,000):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BB&amp;T Governmental Finance</td>
<td>3.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peoples Bank</td>
<td>2.67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ms. Hinson stated that BB&T Governmental Finance and Peoples Bank provided very attractive and competitive bids. Peoples Bank provided the lowest bid and recommended that City Council award Peoples Bank the bid for an amount not to exceed $1,400,000 at stated interest rate of 2.67% for 15 years.

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Wes Weaver, seconded by Council Member Tom Rowe, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the bid to provide financing to Peoples Bank for an amount not to exceed $1,400,000 at stated interest rate of 2.67% for 15 years be – APPROVED.

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Jody Dixon, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Resolution Approving Financing Terms Based on 15 years amortization be - ADOPTED.

(Ordinances, Resolutions and Proclamations are hereby referenced and on file in the office of the City Clerk)
ITEM 9: City Manager’s Report
Meetings & Events

- January 19th and 20th – City Council/Staff Annual Workshop
  Items to be sent early to City Council:
  - City Properties Map & Spreadsheet
  - Capital Improvement Plan
  - 2016 Goals and Objectives
  - Map of Economic Development Properties

- January 23rd-25th – North Star Branding in-market visit
- January 24th – ElectriCities Board of Commissioners Meeting, Concord, NC
- March 12th- 15th – NLC Conference, Washington, DC

Projects

- New Signage at City Hall and Police Department
- “Newton Notify” newtonnc.gov/notify
- Service Excellence University
- Report on Snow Removal

Council Members Jody Dixon and Robert Abernethy commended staff on a job well done with the recent snow removal.

- Report on Water and Sewer Leaks
- Current Employment Openings

Mr. Clark talked about the shortage of linemen applying for jobs in the electric division. Mr. Rowe asked what can the city do to make these jobs more competitive. Mr. Clark stated that salaries are more competitive for contracted and private industry linemen positions. He stated that there are some of the same problems with fire and police. Mr. Abernethy asked if this was an issue with other electric cities. Mr. Weaver mentioned that there could also be trouble with the number of people qualified to do the job. Teresa Laffon, Human Resources said that it is both salaries and qualifications.

ITEM 10: Questions and Comments from Mayor and Council

Council Member Tom Rowe gave a brief summary of things going on with the Newton Depot Authority. He mentioned the mural in North Newton, the welcome center and the public restrooms in the pavilion. He also stated that the commemorative brick project is being held for anyone that would like to buy.

ITEM 11: Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Wes Weaver, seconded by Council Member Jody Dixon, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Meeting be – ADJORNED