MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
January 23, 2018 – 7 p.m.
The regular meeting of the Newton City Council was held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at Newton City Hall.

PRESENT: Mayor Anne P. Stedman, Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver, and Council Members Jerry Hodge, Anne Wepner, Jody Dixon, Tom Rowe and Ed Sain

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.

ITEM 2: OPENING Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Council Member Jody Dixon provided the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Upon motion duly made by Council Member Jody Dixon, seconded by Council Member Anne Wepner, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Regular Minutes of the December 9, 2018 City Council meeting be – APPROVED

ITEM 4: CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS
Upon motion duly made by Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver, seconded by Council Member Ed Sain, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Consent Agenda be – APPROVED

A. Tax Releases
B. Consideration of Capital Project Ordinance for Streetscape Project
C. Consideration to Recognize Revenue from the Untied Arts Council Of Catawba County

(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: Presentation

A. Pedestrian Counts for Downtown – December 2017

Planning Director Randy Williams gave a brief presentation concerning the pedestrian counts for downtown as recorded by the SOOFA.

ITEM 7: Old Business

A. Consideration of Resolution Related to Debt Financing
   1. Approval to Proceed with Project and to Submit LGC Application
   2. Calling for Public Hearing

Finance Director Serina Hinson stated that the City of Newton wishes to finance the acquisition of certain infrastructure improvements, more specifically the Downtown Streetscape Project, Phase; S. Cedar Ave to Forney Sewer Rehabilitation Project; and Fye Dr. Water Extension Project.

Ms. Hinson stated that the estimated cost of the infrastructure improvements by fund is $4,266,500 ($2,680,000 – General Fund, $976,300 – Water/Wastewater Fund, and $610,200 – Electric Fund) or by project is as follows:

   Phase I of the Downtown Streetscape Project is $3,880,000
   S. Cedar Ave to Forney Sewer Rehabilitation Project is $214,750
   Fye Dr. Water Extension Project is $171,750

Ms. Hinson stated that the Finance Department will be soliciting quotes from various financial institutions to borrow $4,041,500 as the City has received a $225,000 grant from the State for the Downtown Streetscape Project. We will provide a recommendation to City Council on awarding the financing on March 6, 2018. We will also call for a public hearing on this same date.

Ms. Hinson stated that the recommendation by staff is to adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager and Finance Director to act on behalf of the City and to authorize the filing of an application with the North Carolina Local Government Commission, and adopt the attached resolution calling for a public hearing on March 6, 2018.

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

   That Consideration to Proceed with Project and to Submit LGC Application and the Resolution Related to Debt Financing be – APPROVED.

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

   That Resolution Calling for a Public Hearing on March 6, 2018 be – APPROVED.

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

ITEM 8: City Manager’s Report

Meetings & Events

   • January 26th – Corning Ribbon Cutting, 10:00 a.m.
   • January 31st and February 1st - City-County Managers Conference, Winston-Salem, NC
Other Items

• Room and Board Building ready for their Certificate of Occupancy  
• Plans for the Catawba County Jail Expansion are being reviewed

ITEM 11: Questions and Comments from Mayor and Council

Mayor Stedman asked if there were any questions or comments from City Council.

Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver gave brief reports on the Tree Board and the Appearance Commission.

ITEM 12: Adjournment

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

That the Meeting be – ADJOURNED

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Anne P. Stedman, Mayor

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Amy S. Falowski, City Clerk