# AGENDA

**CITY OF NEWTON**  
**NEWTON CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING**  
March 15, 2016  
7:00 p.m.

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PERSONS WANTING TO SPEAK ON AN AGENDA ITEM MUST SIGN IN WITH THE CITY CLERK PRIOR TO THE MEETING. PERSONS WANTING TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING MUST CONTACT THE CITY MANAGER AT LEAST SEVEN WORKING DAYS BEFORE THE MEETING.

The City of Newton does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of its services as charged by the City Council of the City of Newton. All meetings are held in accessible facilities. Any person with a disability needing special accommodations should contact Teresa Laffon, ADA Coordinator, at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
March 1, 2016 – 7 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Newton City Council was held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at Newton City Hall.

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

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 Jerry Hodge provided the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Robert C. Aberenethy, Jr., seconded by Council Member John Stiver, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Regular Minutes of the February 16, 2016 City Council meeting be – APPROVED

ITEM 4: CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Tom Rowe, seconded by Council Member Robert C. Abernethy, Jr., with Council Member Wes Weaver voting in opposition, with the change to move item C to New Business, it was RESOLVED:

That the Consent Agenda be – APPROVED

A. Sewer Adjustments

B. Consideration of Audit Contract for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

C. Consideration of Road Closure – Cruisin’ Newton

D. Consideration of Resolution – Certificate of Achievement Newton-Conover High School Men’s Wrestling Team State 2A

(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.
Mr. Richard Dixon of Richie’s Rides asked if he could speak about the Cruisin’ Newton event. Mayor Stedman asked that he wait until the item is discussed in New Business.

ITEM 6: New Business

A. Consideration of Main Street Solutions Grant Application

A state fund, known as the Main Street Solutions Fund, was established in the Department of Commerce through N.C. Gen. Stat. § 143B-472.35. This Fund is administered by the N.C. Main Street Center/Office of Urban Development, and is being used to provide economic development grants to Main Street communities and other eligible micropolitans located in Tier 2 and Tier 3 counties. The City of Newton applied for and received a Main Street Solutions Fund grant on behalf of Second Nature Technology/Carolina Vines during the 2011 round of the Main Street Solutions Fund program.

A local business owner has requested the City of Newton’s assistance with an application for a Main Street Solutions grant. The grant would be used for the renovation of a downtown building which would serve as a new business in downtown. City staff has reviewed the project with the North Carolina Main Street grant administrator. We believe that the project will likely meet the criteria required for a Main Street Solutions Fund grant. An application must be submitted as soon as possible to have a chance at being funded before existing monies are depleted.

The minimum grant amount is $25,000 and the maximum per community is $200,000 for each round of Solutions Fund grant money. The minimum required match in non-state or non-federal money is $2.00 for each $1.00 in grant funds. The grant amount is also limited to $25,000 for each full-time, permanent job created.

The Main Street Solutions Fund grants funds for qualified projects on a first-come, first-serve basis. Funds are expected to be depleted before the end of June 2016.

This grant program is a reimbursement of eligible expenditures, and payment of the grant is contingent upon meeting investment and job creation expectations. The City of Newton would serve as the legal applicant for this grant. Like the 2011 grant awarded to the City, the City would be the grant administrator and would be responsible for certifying the accuracy of the final grant payment request.

Staff requests that City Council approve the Resolution in support of a 2016 Main Street Solutions Grant Application and authorizing the City Manager to execute the grant application and agreement on behalf of the City.

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

That Main Street Solutions Grant Application be – APPROVED.

B. Consideration of Non-Profit Funding Policy

City Manager Todd Clark stated the City Council receives a number of requests each year from various nonprofit organizations that are seeking grant funding. Mr. Clark stated these requests are reviewed by him and a recommendation for funding is made to City Council as part of the Manager’s proposed annual budget to Council.

Mr. Clark stated the City Council asked him to draft a “Nonprofit Funding Policy” to assist the Council in making funding decisions each year. As directed, a Policy was drafted and subsequently presented to City Council as information in the City Manager’s Report during the February 16, 2016, city council meeting.
Mr. Clark stated that City Council is advised that he and the Finance Director, Serina Hinson, have given additional consideration to small nonprofit organizations that may not be able to comply with certain provisions of the policy as originally drafted. As an example, some smaller organizations may not be able to produce an IRS tax-exempt letter confirming 501(c)(3) status or provide an annual independent financial audit for their organization. Mr. Clark stated that consequently, the following paragraph was added to assist smaller organizations:

“Organizations with annual gross receipts under $5,000 are exempt from providing an application and required eligibility documents; however, a request for funding in writing is required annually.”

Mr. Clark stated that as amended, the policy is for City Council’s consideration and there are no statutory requirements to adopt any or all of the policy.

Mayor Stedman asked if the entities would be notified. Mr. Clark stated that they would. Council Member Robert Abernethy asked if there was anything that would make an entity ineligible. Council Member Jerry Hodge stated that their needs to be criteria for giving away tax dollars. He asked if there is some rational behind the $5,000 exemption. Mr. Clark stated that some can’t meet the criteria and are not a 501c3, and are very small with small budgets. Mr. Abernethy stated that he wants to make sure that people can apply this year.

Council Member Wes Weaver stated that some of these businesses are so very small and are working off shoestring budgets. He stated that the city knows these businesses and if anything the $5,000 exemption should be raised.

Finance Director Serina Hinson explained that the audit review is just a request that may be made by the city at the city’s discretion. She stated that most non-profits would have this information and that it was for accountability. Council Member Tom Rowe stated that the Newton Depot Authority has an audit every year.

Mayor Stedman asked if the city can make exceptions for one-time requests. City Attorney John Cilley stated that the policy, if adopted, would need to be followed for everyone.

Council Member Jerry Hodge made a motion to adopt the policy with the removal of the paragraph “Organizations with annual gross receipts under $5,000 are exempt from providing an application and required eligibility documents; however, a request for funding in writing is required annually.” Council Member Robert C. Abernethy, Jr. seconded the motion. With Council Members Robert C. Abernethy, Jr. and Jerry Hodge voting in favor of and Council Members Jody Dixon, Wes Weaver, Tom Rowe and Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver voting against – MOTION FAILED.

Council Member Wes Weaver made a motion to adopt the policy with the change for “Organizations with annual gross receipts under $5,000” to “Organizations with annual gross receipts under $15,000”. MOTION FAILED due to lack of a second.

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Tom Rowe to leave the policy as is, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver, with Council Members Tom Rowe, Jody Dixon and Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver voting in favor of, and Council Members Jerry Hodge, Robert C. Abernethy, Jr. and Wes Weaver voting against, Mayor Anne P. Stedman voted to break the tie, in favor of the “Non-Profit Funding Policy” as is – APPROVED.
C. Consideration of the Addition of “Approval of the Agenda” to all Future City Council Meeting Agendas

City Attorney John Cilley stated that the General Assembly gives wide latitude to accepting agendas. He stated this provision would change business only because the first thing would be to review the agenda and make changes to the agenda by adoption by majority vote. Mr. Cilley quickly went over what other cities in the area practice. Council Member Jerry Hodge asked if these cities all have the Council/Manager form of Government. Mr. Cilley stated that they do. Council Member Weaver asked if this would only affect the consent agenda, Mr. Cilley said that the bigger issue is that it is procedural only and that it would look at adding something or taking something off the proposed agenda. Council Member Wes Weaver stated that it is no simply procedural and that it will restrict this and future council members. He warned other council members that there will come a time when you want to bring something to the agenda and this will prevent you from doing so. Council Member Robert Abernethy stated that he does not see what this would accomplish. Council Member Wes Weaver stated that it restricts ideas and he feels like it is the wrong thing to do. Mayor Stedman stated that one advantage is that it gives other members of council the opportunity to add something to the agenda if the item was approved by council. Council Member Tom Rowe stated that having the agenda on Friday gives the council time to think about the items on the agenda.

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Jody Dixon, seconded by Council Member Jerry Hodge, with Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver, and Council Members Jody Dixon, Tom Rowe and Jerry Hodge voting in favor of, and Council Members Robert C. Abernethy, Jr. and Wes Weaver voting against, it was RESOLVED:

That Consideration of the Addition of “Approval of the Agenda” to all Future City Council Meeting Agendas be Tabled for Future Discussion.

Council Member Robert C. Abernethy, Jr. stated that his opinion will not change on this subject.

A. Consideration of Road Closure – Cruisin’ Newton

Assistant City Manager Sean Hovis stated that Richard Dixon of Richie’s Rides is requesting street closure dates for “Cruisin Newton” a car show event for pre-1979 cars. The requested dates are April 09th, May 14th, June 11th, July 9th, September 10th, and October 08th from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Mr. Dixon has requested that the following streets be closed:

Saturday afternoon 3:00 p.m.: A Street between Brady and North Main Avenue, College Avenue between B Street and 1st Street, and 1st Street between College Avenue and Main Avenue.

Mr. Hovis stated that the streets will be re-opened Saturday evening at 9 p.m.

Mr. Hovis stated that if approved by City Council, staff will assist with filing the request on behalf of Richard Dixon of Richie’s Rides for the street closure with the N.C.D.O.T. for the closure of this street per the attached map.

Mr. Dixon stated that he likes being able to have this event in downtown Newton because it brings people in to Newton and they are able to take advantage of the shops and restaurants downtown. Council Member Tom Rowe asked if Mr. Dixon sells food at his events, Mr. Dixon stated that he does not. Mr. Dixon also stated that he will not be blocking Main Street. Mr. Rowe stated that his concern was that this used to be a Festival and Events event and he just wanted to make sure it was the same as before and whether or not it was downtown people or businesses holding the event. He asked Mr. Richie if there was a charge for admission, Mr. Richie stated that there is not a charge. Mr. Rowe asked if the city would be expected to clean the streets. Mr. Richie stated that he always cleans up after his events.
Upon motion duly made by Council Member Wes Weaver, seconded by Council Member Jerry Hodge, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That Consideration of Road Closure – Cruisin’ Newton be – APPROVED.

Council Member Wes Weaver stated that he was president of Newton Merchants Association which put on Mayfest and that the city needs to hold and allow more events downtown and that this is really exciting and gets business owners involved. He stated that if the city gets too many events the businesses will regulate themselves. He said that streetscape is great but the city really needs more people downtown.

ITEM 7: City Manager’s Report

- March 3rd Teen Leadership begins
- March 7th – Meeting with Executive Staff of Abernethy Laurels at 12:00 noon
- March 9th – Economic Outlook “Future of Catawba County” 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at The Crossing at Hollar Mill
- March 11th - City of Newton Community Awareness Meeting 5:30 p.m. at Catawba Farms
- March 15th – Presentation on Streetscape by Newton City Planning Director Randy Williams at 11:30 a.m. at Catawba Country Club

*On February 12th Sgt. Spencer Cline received the Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate from North Carolina Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission. This is the highest level of certification awarded to law enforcement.

ITEM 8: Questions and Comments from Mayor and Council

Mayor Anne P. Stedman asked if any Council Members would like to make any comments. There were none.

ITEM 9: Closed Session to Consult with the City Attorney – G.S. 143-318-11(a)(4)

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

That the City Council enter CLOSED SESSION per G.S. 143-318-11(a)(4)

Council Member Wes Weaver made the motion to go back into open session, which was seconded by Council Member Jerry Hodge, All Ayes.

ITEM 10: Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Wes Weaver, seconded by Council Member Robert C. Abernethy, Jr., it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Meeting be – ADJOURNED

___________________________________________
Anne P. Stedman, Mayor

___________________________________________
Amy S. Falowski, City Clerk
TO: E. Todd Clark, City Manager  
DATE: March 9, 2016  
RE: Sewer Adjustments – March 15, 2016

FROM: Serina Hinson, Finance Director

The following sewer adjustment is recommended for approval. The adjustment is recommended as a result of a water leak at the service address or a pool fill up.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Service Address</th>
<th>Adjustment Period</th>
<th>Amount of Adjustment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55000360-013</td>
<td>Holly D Cooke</td>
<td>716 Sandalwood Ct #C</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>$18.61</td>
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<tr>
<td>58000480-009</td>
<td>Misty M Sigmon</td>
<td>440 N Davis Ave</td>
<td>Nov-Jan</td>
<td>$761.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58000360-001</td>
<td>Robert L Sigmon</td>
<td>608 N Davis Ave</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>$13.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53000500-001</td>
<td>Billy Smyre</td>
<td>815 E 23rd St</td>
<td>Dec-Jan</td>
<td>$36.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Backup documentation to support each adjustment is on file in the Finance Department. Should you have questions or require further clarification, please notify.
PROCLAMATION
ARBOR DAY
April 30, 2016

WHEREAS, in 1872 J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne Stedman, Mayor of the City of Newton, do hereby proclaim April 30, 2016 as

“ARBOR DAY”

in the City of Newton, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

FURTHER, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Newton to be affixed this the 15th day of March, 2016.

________________________________________
Anne Stedman, Mayor
DATE: March 10, 2016

TO: City Council

FROM: Anne P. Stedman, Mayor

CONSIDERATION OF: Appointment to Boards and Commissions

Members of City Council, I would like to recommend the appointment of the following:

Board and Commission Appointments

David Crouse – Parks and Recreation Commission

Karen M. McDougal – Tree Board

Donna Kanipe – Appearance Commission

Alicia Rayfield – Appearance Commission
Board and/or Committee Application

City of Newton
PO Box 550
Newton, NC 28668
828-695-4300

Name: DAVID CROUSE

Mailing Address: 235 N Gate Rd, Newton NC 28668

Home Address: Same as above

Work Phone#: 828-446-7555

Cell#: 828-446-7555

Resident of the city: Yes

Number of Years: 4

Business owner in the city: No

Number of Years:

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Parks/Rec Board/Committee?

To help Newton progress and grow, and to become more involved as a resident of Newton.

2. What is your professional and educational background?

Currently employed with UPS for 28 years.

3. Do you have special skills, experience or background which would assist you in working on this Board/Committee?

Head of Safety Committee at UPS.

4. How did you hear about this Board/Committee vacancy?

Sandra Waters / Kyle Smith

Signature: [Signature]

Date: 2/21/16

Thank you for your interest in the City of Newton and specifically your interest in being considered for a city board or committee. You along with other applicants will be considered for any current vacancies. Upon submittal to the city this application and the information provided herein will be kept on file with the city and be considered public information.
Board and/or Committee Application

Name: Karen M. McDougal
Mailing Address: 840 W. 7th St, Newton, NC 2658
Home Address: same

Work Phone# none  Home# 828-464-2093  Cell# 828-320-3717

Resident of the city? Yes[ ] No[ ] Number of Years 30
Business owner in the city? Yes[ ] No[ ] Number of Years

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Tree Board/Committee?

Now that I have retired I actually have time to contribute to the committee! I love trees and I hope to be able to contribute to some city policies which will benefit trees and their owners, such as prohibiting topping of trees.

2. What is your professional and educational background?

I have taught botany and biology for 30+ years at Lenoir-Rhyne, where I started and chaired the Tree Committee there, and helped develop the tree protection policy and the Memorial Tree program. My specialty is trees, and I have taught woody plant identification for a number of years. I also serve on the Catawba County Parks Board.

3. Do you have special skills, experience or background which would assist you in working on this Board/Committee?

I have a Masters and PhD in Botany from UNC-Chapel Hill and a Bachelors degree in Biology from Vanderbilt. I have served on and chaired numerous committees at LR, and served as the chair of the LR Faculty Assembly.

4. How did you hear about this Board/Committee vacancy?

My husband saw a sign posted on the Greenway/Carolina Thread Trail near our house.

Karen M. McDougal  3/3/2016 (done earlier!)
Signature  Date

Thank you for your interest in the City of Newton and specifically your interest in being considered for a city board or committee. You along with other applicants will be considered for any current vacancies. Upon submittal to the city this application and the information provided herein will be kept on file with the city and be considered public information.
Name = Donna Kanipe
Address = 205 W 8th St
City_Town = Newton
Stat_Prov = NC
ZipPostal Code = 28658
Phone = 828-244-7538
Which board or committee? = Appearance Commission
Why are you interested? = To help make a difference and offer my unique services to help improve and showcase our city and neighborhoods.
Professional/educational background = Presently a paralegal and notary public. Previous experience in banking, education, management, and physical fitness.
Special skills, experience and background = Gardening, decorating, organizational, and entertaining skills.
How did you hear about vacancy? = Melvin Caldwell-present member.
Falowski, Amy

From: pio@newtonnc.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 06, 2016 4:40 PM
To: Falowski, Amy
Subject: Board/Committee application

Name = Alicia Rayfield
Address = 13 E Herman St
City_Town = Newton
Stat_Prov = NC
Zip_Postal_Code = 28658
Phone = 828-455-4285
Which board or committee? = Appearance Commission
Why are you interested? = I have served on this commission in the past. I would like to continue implementing the positive changes we have started.
Professional/educational background = I currently teach in the Newton-Conover City School system. I have degrees in both mathematics and education.
Special skills, experience and background =
How did you hear about vacancy? = I have served previously and was aware of upcoming vacancies.
DATE: March 10, 2016

TO: E. Todd Clark, City Manager

FROM: Donald G. Brown II, Chief of Police

CONSIDERATION OF: Adopt Budget Ordinance to recognize revenue and authorize expenditure appropriation within the Police Department Budget.

Background:
In the summer of 2015 Officer Caleb Costner expressed interest in beginning a Police Explorer program for the City of Newton Police Department. The police department has been without an Explorer program since the mid 1990’s. The previous Newton Police Department Explorer program developed several individuals throughout the 1990’s who today have successful careers in local and state law enforcement. The Police Explorer program is designed to provide dedicated training and other activities to young people involved in the Law Enforcement Exploring. Participation is open to all candidates between the ages of 14-20.

Officer Costner spent the summer and winter months of 2015 gathering information and gauging support from interested participants. As word spread teenagers became interested in the program and registered for the first class which was held on January 5, 2016. The participants meet twice a month on Tuesday evenings at the Newton Police Complex where they are taught about law enforcement and related issues and receive training from Newton officers.

As a result of Officer Costner’s hard work and dedication to this program, local residents Leslie Yount and David Crouse donated $250.00 and local State Farm Insurance businessman Kevin McMillian donated $100.00 to be used specifically for supporting the Newton Police Explorer program. These funds will be used to purchase uniforms and other equipment used by the Explorers for training, community service projects and possible statewide competitions.

Summary:
The Police have received $250.00 from Leslie Yount and David Crouse and $100.00 from State Farm Insurance agent Kevin McMillian to be used in support of the Newton Police Department Explorer program.

Requested Action:
Motion to adopt the attached budget ordinance to recognize revenue and authorize the expenditure appropriation in the Police Department operating budget.
LESLIE M. YOUNT
DAVID NEIL CROUSE
240 9th Ave D-NW
Hickory, NC 28601

Date: 2/2/2016

Pay to the Order of Newton Police Dept F/B/o Explorer Club $ 250.00

Two Hundred Fifty and 00/100 Dollars

WACHOVIA
For Explorer Club

[Signature]

14
Pay to the Order of Newton Police Dept. $100.00

[Signature]

For Ex parte Program
ORDINANCE # 2016-5

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 FOR THE CITY OF NEWTON.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Newton have adopted a Budget Ordinance for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016, in accordance with the General Statutes of the State of North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, The City Council desires to recognize contributions for the Police Explorer Program. The Police Explorer Program is designed to provide dedicated training and other activities to young people involved in the Law Enforcement Exploring. Participation is open to all candidates between the ages of fourteen and twenty. Local residents Leslie Yount and David Crouse donated $250 and State Farm Insurance businessman Kevin McMillan donated $100 to be used specifically for supporting the Newton Police Explorer Program. These funds will be utilized to purchase uniforms and other equipment used by the Explorers for training, community service projects and possible statewide competitions; and

WHEREAS, The City Council desires to recognize the contributions and authorize the related expenditure appropriation within the Police Department’s respective operating budget.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWTON, NORTH CAROLINA, THAT:

THE FOLLOWING SOURCE OF REVENUE AND APPROPRIATION ARE HEREBY APPROVED.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Fund Revenues</th>
<th>Special Project Contributions/Other Grants 11-0000.3845</th>
<th>$350</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund Appropriations</td>
<td>Miscellaneous 11-4310.7990</td>
<td>$350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adopted this 15th day of March, 2016.

Attest:

______________________________
Anne P. Stedman, Mayor

______________________________
Amy S. Falowski, City Clerk
TO:     E. Todd Clark, City Manager
FROM:   Kevin Yoder, Fire Chief

ACTION REQUESTED: Consider submitting an application for the 2015 SAFER Grant (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) for increased staffing within the Fire Department

Approved for Council Consideration

1. The Fire Department has previously applied to the Federal Government through the SAFER Grant for funding for additional personnel for firefighting purposes.
2. The department has applied for the Grant almost every year since its inception.
3. Previously this grant was a five year grant with a local match each of the first four years with the local unit committing to 100% of the funding in the fifth and final year.
4. This Grant has been modified to a two year grant with 100% funding in each of the two years with no obligation by the recipient following the two year period.
5. If awarded, the local unit would need to maintain current staffing levels throughout the duration of the grant.
6. During the grant period the local unit can have no reduction in force in the fire department without forfeiting part or the entire grant.
7. If the council chooses to submit an application for funding for firefighting personnel, the recommendation of the staff is that the request be for six personnel.
8. The justification for this funding request is to comply with NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) minimum guidelines for the Fire Department. Additional information is attached.

Action Suggested:

Approval of an application for the 2015 SAFER Grant.
FY2015 SAFER Funding

- Funding request for 6 Full-Time Firefighter positions
- Grant provides funding for salary and benefits for 2 years with no City match required
- Positions may be eliminated or reduced after 2 year period, however current FT and PT staffing levels must be maintained during initial 2 year period of grant.
- Year 1 funding estimate is $313,920
- Year 2 funding estimate is $324,870 (includes 5% contingent increase for salary and benefit increase)
- Funding for annual physicals and uniforms is not provided.
- Currently, we are only meeting NFPA staffing requirements on 71% of structural incidents. With the requested 6 FTEs, we expect to comply on 100% of structural incidents.
- At the end of the 2 year grant period, any change or reduction in staffing levels is accepted with no penalty from FEMA.
- Application deadline is March 25, 2016
- Awards are expected to begin around June 2016
This letter is in reference to the FY2015 SAFER Grant application for The City of Newton Fire Department. As the governing body over the Fire Department, The Newton City Council is aware and has approved of the application for funding requested by the Fire Department for Six Firefighter positions. The Newton City Council fully understands the need of this additional staffing, however at this time, our revenues will not fully support the required funding of these additional positions. The Newton City Council understands the requirements set forth by the SAFER grant program in that staffing levels will not be reduced within the two-year grant period. In addition, it is the intent of The Newton City Council to work towards full funding of the positions, after the grant period expires.
DATE: March 9, 2016
TO: E. Todd Clark, City Manager
FROM: Dusty Wentz, PE, MPA, Public Works and Utilities Director
CONSIDERATION OF: Smart Meter Change Order 4

Approved for Council Consideration

Background:

Public Works and Utilities is in the process of changing out water and electric meters as part of the Smart Meter / AMI project. The meter installation portion of the project is rapidly reaching conclusion. Staff and the contractor have agreed the final number of meters needed to complete the project.

Change Order 4: Increases the contract amount for the following:

- 1” meters by 2
- 1 ½” meters by 8
- 1 ½” Register replacements by 15
- 2” meters by 15
- 2” register replacements by 18
- 4” meters by 1
- 4” register replacements by 4
- 6” meters by 1
- 6” register replacements by 1
- 3S/4S non RD meters by 12
- 35S/5S Commercial meters by 16
- 16S Commercial meters by 14

This change order also reduces the contractor amount for the following:

- 2S / RD Residential meters by 22
- 3S / 4S non RD meters by 13
- 12S RD meters by 2

As a result of change order 4, the net increase in project cost is $56,015.95.

There are several causes for Change Order 4, including replacement of inactive meters, unclear data during the contract negotiation process, etc.

In November 2015, council approved Change Orders 1 and 2, with a combined total of $19,269.55. At the February 16 meter, council approved Change Order 3, increasing the project cost by $44,677.32. The three previous change orders result in a project increase of $63,946.87. Approval of change order 4 would result in a total project increase of $119,962.82, and a total project cost of $3,619,962.82. This represents a 3.43% increase in the original cost of the project.

$200,000 in contingency is reserved for this project. If Change Order 4 is approved, $80,037.18 remains in contingency.

Currently, the electric meter manufacturer is projecting a delivery date for the Change Order 4 meters near the end of April. Multiple PWU staff have expressed displeasure with this delivery date and the overall project implementation time to the contractor, who is working to obtain the remaining meters well in advance of that date.

Action Suggested:

Staff requests that council approves Change Order 4 for the Smart Meter / AMI project.
Change Order Directive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name: City of Newton, NC</th>
<th>WCD No: ________________________________</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Number: __________________</td>
<td>Contract Date: __________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractor: __________________________</td>
<td>NTP Date: _______________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineer: __________________________</td>
<td>Final Completion Date: _____________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DEDUCT from contract:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Original Price</th>
<th>New Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22 each</td>
<td>Residential Electric Meter (2S / RD)</td>
<td>$159.13</td>
<td>-$3,500.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 each</td>
<td>Sensus Electric Meter (3S / 4S non RD)</td>
<td>$145.00</td>
<td>-$1,885.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 each</td>
<td>Electric Meter (12S RD)</td>
<td>$159.13</td>
<td>-$318.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADD to contract:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Original Price</th>
<th>New Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 each</td>
<td>Elster Electric Meter (3S / 4S non RD)</td>
<td>$368.04</td>
<td>$4,416.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 each</td>
<td>35S/5S Commercial Electric Meter</td>
<td>$368.04</td>
<td>$5,888.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 each</td>
<td>16S Commercial Electric Meter (5S, 65, 9S, 16S, 35S non RD KW, KWh, kVARh)</td>
<td>$368.04</td>
<td>$5,152.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated change in Contract Price and/or Contract Time: Contract Price: $9,753.55 (increase)

*Note: No additional increase in time or money will be considered for a WCD item after it has been executed.*

**RECOMMENDED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engineer’s Name:</th>
<th>Contractor’s Name: Utility Metering Solutions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>___________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
<td>Address: 117 East Thomas St Hammond, LA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By:</td>
<td>By: Joe Badera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Date: 2/17/2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ACCEPTED**

| Contractor’s Name: Utility Metering Solutions |
|_____________________________________________|
| __________________ | ___________________________________________ |
| Address: | Address: PO Box 550 Newton, NC 28658 |
| By: | By: Joe Badera |
| __________________ | __________________ |
| Date: | Date: 2/17/2016 |

**APPROVED**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owner’s Name: City of Newton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>__________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Change Order Directive**

**Project Name:** City of Newton, NC  
**WCD No:** _____________________________

**Project Number:** ______________________   
**Contract Date:** _________________________

**Contractor:** ___________________________   
**NTP Date:** _____________________________

**Engineer:** _____________________________   
**Final Completion Date:** ___________________

### DEDUCT FROM CONTRACT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Original Price</th>
<th>Deduction Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Transmitters</td>
<td>$149.57</td>
<td>($2,991.40)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Net changes on all sizes – Deduction of 30 and adding of 10)

### ADD TO CONTRACT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Original Price</th>
<th>Contract Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1” Meter</td>
<td>$344.18</td>
<td>$688.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.5” Meter</td>
<td>$877.17</td>
<td>$7,017.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.5” Register Replacement</td>
<td>$560.00</td>
<td>$1,120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>2” Meter</td>
<td>$1,081.51</td>
<td>$16,222.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>2” Register Replacement</td>
<td>$366.09</td>
<td>$6,589.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4” Meter</td>
<td>$4,245.65</td>
<td>$4,245.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4” Register Replacement</td>
<td>$366.09</td>
<td>$1,464.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6” Meter</td>
<td>$11,345.65</td>
<td>$11,345.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6” Register</td>
<td>$560.00</td>
<td>$560.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Estimated change in Contract Price and/or Contract Time**  
**Contract Price:** $46,262.40 (increase)

**Note:** No additional increase in time or money will be considered for a WCD item after it has been executed.

**RECOMMENDED**

**Engineer’s Name:**  
__________________________

**Address:**  
__________________________

**By:**  
__________________________

**Date:**  
__________________________

**ACCEPTED**

**Contractor’s Name:** Utility Metering Solutions  
**Address:** 117 East Thomas St Hammond, LA

**By:** Joe Badera  
**Date:** 2/25/16

**APPROVED**

**Owner’s Name:** City of Newton  
**Address:** PO Box 550 Newton, NC 28658

**By:**  
**Date:**  
__________________________