MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
March 19, 2019 – 7 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Newton City Council was held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 19, 2019 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 Anne Wepner provided the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

That the Regular Minutes of the February 19, 2019 City Council meeting be – APPROVED

ITEM 4: CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

That the Consent Agenda be – APPROVED

A. Tax Releases

B. Sewer Adjustments

C. Consideration to Adopt Resolution of Intent to Reimburse for Engineering Services

(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: New Business

A. Consideration of Budget Ordinance Amendment for Installation of a New AVAC System for Central Recreation Gym

Parks and Recreation Director Sandra Waters stated that the Central Recreation Gym was built in 1953 as part of Central School. The City of Newton purchased the facility from Newton-Conover City School System in 1972. Ms. Waters stated the buildings are heated with a gas fired boiler unit with no means of air conditioning in the gym. Temperatures in the gym range from 80 to 90+ degrees during the summer months. Ms. Waters explained that they currently use four to six portable fans, along with the doors standing open, to circulate air in the gym. In June of 2018, City Council held a neighborhood meeting in the Central gym, and as a result of the meeting, City Council requested air conditioning to be installed from this year’s budget 2018-19. Funds of $92,550 for this project were already approved in the 2020-21 CIP. The Newton Parks & Recreation Department contracted with Brittain Engineering, Inc., Hickory NC for engineering and project services. Ms. Waters stated that three bids were received, with William C. Reynolds as low bid at $101,350.

Ms. Waters stated that staff proposes the installation of an HVAC system at Central Recreation Gym to include: two ten-ton HVAC package units on the roof for the gym; new heating units in both restrooms; new “mini-split HVAC unit in office; new electrical breaker panel; new three phase electrical service to provide power to new panel for gym and new service provided to existing building (shop) behind the gym. Also, staff recommends that City Council approve the attached budget amendment appropriating $111,350 which includes 10% contingency for this project. Staff also recommends awarding the bid to William C. Reynolds in the amount of $101,350.

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

That the bid to William C. Reynolds in the amount of $101,350 be – AWARDED.

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

That the Budget Ordinance Amendment Appropriating $111,350, which includes 10% contingency for this Project be – ADOPTED.

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

B. Consideration of Budget Ordinance Amendment for Engineering Services for Valley Drive Waterline Replacement

Public Works and Utilities Director Dusty Wentz stated that in November of 2017 city staff was made aware of brown water in the 800 block of Valley Dr. Staff responded by flushing water mains, adding an automatic flushing valve, replacing two service lines, and replacing 120 feet of six (6) inch water main. Mr. Wentz stated that during the replacement of the water main it was noted that the old water main had heavy tuberculation, which caused the brown water. The tuberculation had reduced the inside diameter of the pipe from six (6) inches to three (3) inches.

Mr. Wentz stated that the replacement of the water main resulted in clearer water until November of 2018. At that time, the brown water recurred.
Mr. Wentz stated that city staff estimates that an additional 1,280 feet of water main will need to be replaced. The replacement area will include the 800 block of Valley and the 800 Block of Hamilton St. Staff also noted that some of the replacement may involve sewer because of State regulations. Requests for qualification for engineering were made and WithersRavenel was selected by staff.

Mr. Wentz stated that staff is ready to move forward with the engineering contract in the amount of $59,200. Once design is completed and permitted by the state, a bid will be released for construction. Additional funding will be required for construction once that cost is determined through engineering.

Mr. Wentz stated that staff recommends that Council adopt the attached budget amendment for engineering services in the amount of $59,200.

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

That the Budget Ordinance Amendment for Engineering Services in the amount of $59,200 be – ADOPTED.

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

ITEM 7: City Manager’s Report

Meetings & Events

• March 21st – Catawba County Chamber of Commerce – Future of Catawba County Summit, Hickory Metro Center – 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
• March 21st – West A Street Project Open House, Council Chamber at City Hall – 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
• March 26th – Economic Development Strategic Planning Project Kick Off Meeting, Fire Station Headquarters – 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
• March 26th – WPCOG Policy Board Meeting, Brushy Mountain Golf Club – 6:00 p.m.
• March 27th – City Council/Staff Workshop – Water/Sewer Rate Study and CIP, Council Chamber – 4:00 p.m.
• May 15th – Key Accounts Luncheon, Old Post Office Play House – 11:00 a.m.

Budget Workshops, All Will Begin at 5:15 p.m. – Council Chamber

*May 7, 2019 City Council Meeting – Presentation of Budget

May 13, 2019
May 15, 2019
May 16, 2019

*If needed

*May 20, 2019
*May 21, 2019
*May 22, 2019

Other Projects

• Splash Pad
• Streetscape Project Update/Amphitheater Construction
• Strategic Growth Plan Update
• Website Project
• Greenway Extension
• Pocket Parks
• Website Project
• Economic Development Strategies for Downtown
• Review of Municipal Authority Regulating Murals and Setting Standards for Murals
• Ashe Ave Parking Lot
• 20th Street Flooding Update
• Newton Corporate Center Site Recertification
• Brownfield Planning Grant
• At&T Joint Use Agreement/ Legal Review
• 2019 Annual Financings
• Teen Leadership (April)
• Fire Department Rescue Truck in Fabrication
• Valley Drive Waterline

Other

- Police Sgt. Brett Williams was recognized by Newton-Conover City Schools for his volunteer efforts at North Newton Elementary
- Shannon Johnson, Main Street Coordinator, successfully completed her HRE347 – Real Estate Development Finance: Problem Solving and Deal Structuring Certification Examination and is now a certified Historic Real Estate Finance Professional.
- Newton-Conover City Schools Fair
- Reference Recreation Dept. Monthly Report
- Public Works Rodeo May 22nd - 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. – Schools invited – Jacob Fork MS (200 plus 7th grade kids scheduled to attend)

ITEM 8: Questions and Comments from Mayor and Council

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

Council Member Anne Wepner gave a report on the Newton – Conover Auditorium.

ITEM 9: 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