MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEWTON CITY COUNCIL
December 5, 2017 – 7 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Newton City Council was held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at Newton City Hall.

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

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 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 Council Member Jerry Hodge, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Regular Minutes of the November 21, 2017 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 Tom Rowe, it was unanimously RESOLVED:

That the Consent Agenda be – APPROVED

A. Sewer Adjustments

B. Consideration of Street Closure – Rotary Car Show

(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: Old Business

A. Presentation of Fiscal Year 2017 Audit

Marcie Spivey of Martin-Starnes & Associates presented the City Council with the 2017 Audited Financial Statement. Ms. Spivey stated that the financial statements of the City of Newton present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position which results in an unqualified opinion. Ms. Spivey stated that this opinion basically means the auditors feel the City followed all accounting rules
appropriately and that the financial statements are an accurate reflection of the financial position of the City with no material misstatements.

Ms. Spivey stated that the Finance Staff was very cooperative, and that her staff was very appreciative of this.

City Manager Todd Clark thanked Ms. Spivey and also Serina Hinson, Finance Director, and her staff for the great job that they do for the City, and stated that the audit is available to the public on the City’s website.

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

Finance Director Serina Hinson stated that on November 20, 2017, bids were solicited for funding of vehicles and equipment. These capital items were approved as part of the FY 2017-2018 budget ordinance. Ms. Hinson stated that six 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, and Peoples Bank.

Ms. Hinson stated that of the six financial institutions solicited, four of these institutions provided a quote: BB&T Governmental Finance, First Citizens Bank, Peoples Bank and SunTrust Equipment Finance & Leasing Corp.

The bids were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Institution</th>
<th>Interest Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>59 month Amortization ($713,769):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BB&amp;T Governmental Finance</td>
<td>2.47%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Citizens Bank</td>
<td>2.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peoples Bank</td>
<td>2.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SunTrust</td>
<td>2.175%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ms. Hinson stated that *BB&T Governmental Finance also provided an Option B which was 2% with an interest rate that could fluctuate from year to year. Since a fixed term was specifically requested, Option B was not considered.

Ms. Hinson stated that BB&T Governmental Finance, First Citizens Bank, Peoples Bank and SunTrust Equipment Finance & Leasing Corp. all provided very attractive and competitive bids. First Citizens Bank provided the lowest bid.

Ms. Hinson stated it is staff’s recommendation that City Council:

1) Award the bid to provide financing to First Citizens Bank for an amount not to exceed $713,769 at stated interest rate of 2.15% for 59 months.

2) Adopt the Resolution Approving Financing Terms based on a 59 month amortization.

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 First Citizens Bank for an amount not to exceed $713,769 at stated interest rate of 2.15% for 59 months be – AWARDED

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Wes Weaver, seconded by Council Member Robert C. Abernethy, Jr., it was unanimously RESOLVED:
That the Resolution Approving Financing Terms based on a 59 month amortization be – ADOPTED.

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

C. Presentation of Plaques to Council Members Robert C. Abernethy, Jr. and Wes Weaver

Mayor Stedman presented outgoing Council Members Robert C. Abernethy, Jr. and Wes Weaver with Plaques of Recognition for their years of service as Council Members on the City of Newton City Council.

Mayor Stedman thanked them both and stated that it was a pleasure to work with them.

ITEM 7: Recess Meeting of Present Council

Mayor Stedman recessed the Regular Meeting of the Newton City Council for ten minutes.

ITEM 8: Administer the Oath of Office to New Council Members

Superior Court Judge Greg Hayes administered the oaths of office to Mayor Pro Tem John Stiver and newly elected Council Members Anne A. Wepner and Ed Sain.

ITEM 9: Organizational Meeting of the Council

A. Election of Mayor Pro Tempore

City Attorney John Cilley explained that per past city practice, City Council Members can nominate someone on the board for Mayor Pro Tem. After all nominations are made, the person with the greatest number of votes will then be Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Stedman asked for nominations for Mayor Pro Tem.

Council Member Tom Rowe nominated Council Member John Stiver.

Mayor Stedman asked if there were any more nominations. There were none.

It was unanimously RESOLVED:

That Council Member John M. Stiver be ELECTED – Mayor Pro Tempore

B. Consideration of the 2018 Regular City Council Meeting, Workshop Schedules

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

That the 2018 Regular City Council Meetings and Workshop Schedules be – APPROVED.
ITEM 10:  

City Manager’s Report

Meetings & Events

- December 8th – Sarstedt Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting of Newly Renovated Manufacturing Area – 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- January 11th and 12th – Essentials of Municipal Government including Ethics Training

Other Items

- Great Blue Electric Utility Customer Satisfaction Survey
- Chromebook cases –K-64
- Update on Public Works fire
- Update on leaf collection
- West A Street Streetscape Update
- LED streetlights on College and Main
- Balls Creek Road and Buffalo Shoals Road Water Extension Projects
- Update on Fye Drive Water Extension Project and South Cedar Sewer Replacement Project

ITEM 11:  

Questions and Comments from Mayor and Council

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

ITEM 12:  

Closed Session – Per North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(3), and 143-318.11(a)(5)

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

That City Council enter CLOSED SESSION per General Statutes 143-318.11(a)(3), and 143-318.11(a)(5)

Motion was then made by Council Member Jody Dixon to return to open session, seconded by Council Member Jerry Hodge. All Ayes.

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

That Resolution 17-2017 – To Accept the Donation of Certain Real Property - Lots 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, as shown on Plat Book 43 at Page 53, Catawba County Registry be – ADOPTED.

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

That all Costs related to the Closing of the Property be Paid by the City.
ITEM 12:  Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Council Member Jody Dixon, seconded by Council Member Tom Rowe, 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