

**MINUTES**  
**North Newton City Council – Regular Meeting**  
**July 11, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.**  
**North Newton City Hall**

**1. Call to Order.**

In Mayor Ron Braun's absence Council President Ratzlaff called the meeting to order. Those present and constituting a quorum were:

**COUNCIL:** Ron Ratzlaff, Paul Harder, Bill Hake, Gregg Dick

**ABSENT:** Jim Goering, Mayor Ron Braun

**STAFF:** Sher Klassen Neufeld, Greg Nye, Danny Bisoni, Ray Classen

**OTHERS:** Chad Frey, Kurt Friesen, John Torline

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting.**

Minutes of the June 13, 2011, Regular Council meeting were presented for approval with the amendment to Item #7 to include "The Mayor directed Nye to prepare Findings of Fact that follow the discussion and statements of the Council, to be approved at the next Council meeting".

**MOTION:** Hake moved, Harder seconded, to approve the June 13, 2011, minutes as presented with the amendment to Item #7. Motion carried unanimously.

**3. Citizen Comments**

Citizen Kurt Friesen questioned Council regarding moratorium of issuance of building permits for cell phone towers until proper investigation of safety issues are addressed. City Attorney Nye recommended further discussion out side Citizen Comments section of the Council meeting.

**4. Consider The Mayor's Appointments to an Unexpired Term on the Newton/North Newton Historic Preservation Commission and Vacant Term on the Park and Recreation Committee**

President Ratzlaff asked for recommendations from Council for candidates to fill the two vacancies. Recommendations can be sent to the Mayor via email.

**5. Consider Findings of Fact in the Matter of the Rezoning of a Tract of Real Estate on West 22<sup>nd</sup> Street**

Upon the Mayor's request, Nye prepared a Findings of Fact document which puts in writing what the Council did at the June meeting regarding the rezoning and is asking Council to approve the document which will be included with the minutes.

MOTION: Harder moved, Dick seconded, to approve the Findings of Fact document as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Conduct Budget Work Session # 2**

MOTION: Hake moved, Harder seconded, to approve the proposed 2012 budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Dick moved, Hake seconded, to authorize publication of the 2012 budget summary and hearing notice as presented for August 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. Reports**

**a. Mayor/Council.** Councilman Harder asked that Staff look at a portion of curb that is chipping on the sidewalk entering Witmarsum that could cause a tripping hazard.

**b. Staff Update.** Interim City Administrator Neufeld reported that she met with Steve Meyer that morning and that he does not anticipate raising trash or recycling rates for 2012. She also reminded Council that the bid opening for the interpretive signage is this Thursday at 2:00 p.m. Bisoni reported the skid loader from White Star has been on backorder and anticipates it may be delivered July 20. Clarke Drilling and Brad Vincent will be at the three test wells tomorrow to pump wells for three to four hours in order to collect samples that we will deliver ourselves to KDHE in Topeka by Friday morning. We will know the results of those samples in about a month. After we get good results we will apply for water rights, do land acquisition, have an engineer's study done, and drill production wells. Classen reported on court activity in the last month and included his police activity report in the council packet.

**c. Clerk/Treasurer.** Neufeld presented bills for payment

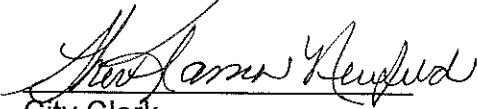
MOTION: Harder moved, Dick seconded, to approve the July accounts payable in the amount of \$74,899.62 and June gross payroll/miscellaneous checks in the amount of \$45,465.75 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

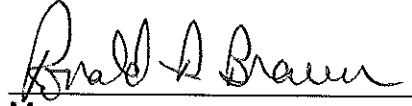
**9. Non-Agenda Items.**

None presented.

**10. Adjournment.**

MOTION: There being no further business Harder moved, Hake seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

  
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City Clerk

  
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Mayor

08.08.11  
Date Approved