

TOWN OF NEWTON ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 15, 2025

The Town of Newton Annual Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Thomas at 7:00 p.m., at the Newton Town Hall. The Town Board and clerk were present, Treasurer excused.

Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill Schleis made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Scott Bastian. All approved, motion carried.

The 2024 meeting minutes were read by the clerk. Garrett Braun made a motion to approve the agenda as printed, seconded by Lee Glaeser. All approved, motion carried.

Bob Ziegelbauer stated that we added the 0.5% County sales Tax in 2025, and we held out as long as we could from implementing this tax. He mentioned that we've "Held the Line" on County Property Taxes for 19 years and we can continue to hold the line in the future.

Kevin Behnke, District 12 Supervisor, spoke about where he would like to see the revenue from the Sales Tax Increase to go. He stated the Highway Department is building a new Brine Facility.

Cheyenne Behnke from Manitowoc County Soil & Water Conservation spoke about the progress with the Pine Creek Watershed.

Denise Thomas began her chairperson's report, thanking all town residents. Our building inspector Roger Mayer retired, and we hired Dan Goodine to replace him. She stated we granted the 90/10 ARIP grant to be completed in 2027. Lastly, she thanked all Town Employees as well as the men and women on the Fire Department and First Responders for keeping us all safe. A special thank you to Kelly Christiansen for his service.

Kevin Behnke thanked the Recycling Workers Jim Jost, Bob Jost, Al Fischer for giving up their Saturdays to work in all conditions. He then mentioned our electronic collections have been successful and we want to continue to have them twice a year. He also stated going to Open Book is the easiest way to discuss your property taxes.

Kelly Christiansen wanted to thank everyone for allowing him to serve. He stated the progress of the projects he has been apart of, such as Broadband and the Fire House project.

Paulette Vogt was excused but Chairperson Thomas read a brief statement from Treasurer Vogt.

The Clerk thanked everyone and praised the residents for their voter turnout.

Dave Mueller began by asking people to keep their dogs tagged and to add him on Facebook to help him identify missing dogs. He stated he will help and be cooperative to any trees that need to be taken down.

Mark Knier stated this was the 37th year of First Responders. They had 130 calls with 132 patients.

Tom Hochkammer stated they went on 76 calls this year. They have a full roster and 2 on the waiting list. They expect to start a cadet program as well. Lastly, he stated to please get a Burning Permit.

A motion was made by Christopher Grotegut to approve the resolution that we, the electors of the Town of Newton, being duly assembled at the Annual town meeting on April 15, 2025, do hereby authorize the Town of Board of the Town of Newton to construct a new firehouse at a cost not to \$7,000,000 pursuant to sec. 60.10(2)(f). Seconded by Robert Sickinger, a ballot vote was taken. 81 in favor, 6 opposed, motion carried.

Public input was opened, and Bob Braun questioned the City Water Main Project with punching wells. Laura Schleis thanked the Board for the sign out front.

Bob Mahrehine made a motion to give the town authority to borrow money if needed, seconded by Robert Sickenger. All approved, motion carried.

Charlie Bauer made a motion to have Bank First National as the official bank of the Town of Newton, seconded by Debbie Holschbach. All approved, motion carried.

Scott Konik made a motion to adjourn the Annual meeting until April 21, 2026. Seconded by Jon Luckow, all approved, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Alyssa Grotegut, Clerk