



**NEWTON FALLS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, December 3, 2025; 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
612 WEST BROAD STREET**

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS		CITY ADMINISTRATION	
Ward 1	Patricia Benetis	City Manager	Jamie Vernaccini
Ward 2	Brian Axiotis	Law Director	Jeff Limbian
Ward 3	Robert Burke	Finance Director	Pamela Hileman
Ward 4	Kevin Rufener	Clerk of Council	Michael Acomb
At- Large	Julie Stimpert	Police Chief	John Barco
Mayor	David Hanson		

- XI. New Business**
- XII. Public Comments**
- XIII. Closing Remarks**
 - a. Mayor
 - b. Council Members
 - c. Law Director
 - d. City Manager
- XIV. Motion to Recess into Executive Session (If Necessary)**
- XV. Adjournment**



NEWTON FALLS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 19, 2025; 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
612 WEST BROAD STREET

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS		CITY ADMINISTRATION	
Ward 1	Patricia Benetis	City Manager	Jamie Vernaccini
Ward 2	Brian Axiotis	Law Director	Jeff Limbian
Ward 3	Robert Burke	Finance Director	Pamela Hileman
Ward 4	Kevin Rufener	Clerk of Council	Michael Acomb
At- Large	Julie Stimpert	Police Chief	John Barco
Mayor	David Hanson		

I. Call to Order

Mayor Hanson called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance / Silent Prayer

III. Roll Call

Mayor Hanson asked Mr. Acomb to call the roll.

Council Present: Councilperson Axiotis, Councilperson Benetis, Councilperson Stimpert, Councilperson Rufener, Councilperson Burke, Mayor Hanson.

Council Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Manager Vernaccini, Clerk Acomb.

Staff Absent: Law Director Limbian, Chief Barco.

Ms. Stimpert made a motion to excuse Mr. Burke due to last minute circumstances preventing his attendance. Second by Mr. Rufener.

No discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Axiotis-yes; Ms. Benetis-yes; Mr. Burke-yes; Mr. Rufener-yes; Ms. Stimpert-yes. The ordinance passed 4-0.

IV. Changes To Tonight's Agenda

No changes.

V. Special Presentations by Staff Members or Invited Consultants

None.

VI. Public Comments (Agenda Items Only)

John Baryak – 660 N. Canal

When I can I have a copy of the budget?

VII. Reports

a. Mayor – No report.

b. Council Members

i. Ward 1 – No report.

ii. Ward 2 – A TIB meeting was held on Thursday. They voted to accept recommendations from the Meder Group regarding investment strategy. There is one open seat on the Board. Planning and Zoning needs a Chairman as Mr. Kropp joins Council in January. That seat needs to be filled.

- iii. Ward 3 – No report.
- iv. Ward 4 – No report.
- v. At-Large – She attended the Veterans Event at the HS and read the proclamation. The turkey raffle happens this week. The next Fire Board Meeting is December 16 and 6:00pm at the township building. Mr. Limbian informed her of tonight's absence prior to tonight.

c. City Manager – She read from a prepared report. Enclosed.

VIII. Approval of Previous Minutes

Mayor Hanson asked for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes November 5, 2025. Moved by Mr. ---. Second by Ms. ---.

Mr. Axiotis made a motion to amend the minutes on page 8, Section XII to swap the comments made by Ward 1 and Ward 2 as they were reversed when recorded. Second by Ms. Stimpert.

No discussion

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Axiotis-yes; Ms. Benetis-yes; Mr. Rufener-yes; Ms. Stimpert-yes. The motion passed 4-0. The minutes were amended.

Mr. Rufener made a motion to adopt the minutes as amended. Second by Ms. Benetis.

No discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Axiotis-yes; Ms. Benetis-yes; Mr. Rufener-yes; Ms. Stimpert-yes. The motion passed 4-0. The minutes were approved as amended.

IX. Public Hearings

ORDINANCE 2025-53 Sponsors: Axiotis, Rufener
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET AND
SETTING FORTH THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2026
No public comments.

ORDINANCE 2025-55 Sponsors: Axiotis, Benetis
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS
No public comments.

X. Unfinished Business

ORDINANCE 2025-53 Sponsors: Axiotis, Rufener
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET AND
SETTING FORTH THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2026

Mayor Hanson read the ordinance by title only and asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance. Moved by Mr. Axiotis. Second by Ms. Benetis.

No discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Axiotis-yes; Ms. Benetis-yes; Mr. Rufener-yes; Ms. Stimpert-yes. The ordinance passed 4-0. Final Reading.

ORDINANCE 2025-55 Sponsors: Axiotis, Benetis
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS
Mayor Hanson read the ordinance by title only and asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance. Moved by Mr. Axiotis. Second by Ms. Benetis.

No discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Axiotis-yes; Ms. Benetis-yes; Mr. Rufener-yes; Ms. Stimpert-yes. The ordinance passed 4-0. Final Reading.

XI. New Business

RESOLUTION 12-2025 Sponsors: Axiotis, Benetis

A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE COSTS OF WEED AND GRASS REMOVAL TO THE TRUMBULL COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER FOR COLLECTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW

Mayor Hanson read the ordinance by title only and asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance. Moved by Ms. Stimpert. Second by Ms. Benetis.

No discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Axiotis-yes; Ms. Benetis-yes; Mr. Rufener-yes; Ms. Stimpert-yes. The resolution passed 4-0.

ORDINANCE 2025-58

Sponsors: Rufener, Axiotis

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS SPECIFIED HEREIN FOR THE PURCHASE OF CHEMICALS NEEDED BY THE VILLAGE OF NEWTON FALLS WATER PLANT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2026.

Mayor Hanson read the ordinance by title only and asked for a motion to adopt the ordinance. Moved by Mr. Axiotis. Second by Mr. Rufener.

No discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Axiotis-yes; Ms. Benetis-yes; Mr. Rufener-yes; Ms. Stimpert-yes. The ordinance passed 4-0. First Reading.

XII.

Public Comments

John Baryak – 660 N. Canal

He spoke about the sale of transmission lines. He spoke against selling assets. He wants to know why the police budget increased and addressed Mr. Axiotis regarding his voting record on speed cameras. He advocated for a ¼ percent tax. Is the water safe to drink? The City Manager stated “yes”.

Brian Kropp – 247 Elizabeth Street

She asked the City Manager to clarify the administrative code of which she spoke earlier. He spoke against the restrictions of certain kinds of speech towards members of Council. The city manager clarified.

XIII.

Closing Remarks

- a. Mayor – No remarks.
- b. Council Members
 - i. Ward 1 – No remarks.
 - ii. Ward 2 – He voted for speed cameras in school zones only. He spoke against the nullification of an ordinance to circumvent a referendum. He also stated that the sale of assets is necessary to avoid the cost of repairs and maintenance. Not selling means that rates will increase. He encouraged all to call him to discuss. He wants to slow increases in utilities for residents.
 - iii. Ward 4 – No remarks.
 - iv. At-Large – She thanked Mr. Axiotis for his reiterations. She spoke in support of the sale of transmission lines to pay for necessary infrastructure upgrades. She attended the Trumbull County Meeting regarding a 250-year birthday. She has some ideas to share with the City Manager that might spark the local economy.
- c. City Manager – No remarks.

XIV.

Motion to Recess into Executive Session (If Necessary)

No motion.

XV.

Adjournment

Mr. Axiotis made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Second by Ms. Benetis.

No discussion.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Axiotis-yes; Ms. Benetis-yes; Mr. Rufener-yes; Ms. Stimpert-yes. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 pm.

APPROVED:

David Hanson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael Acomb, Clerk of Council

DRAFT

VILLAGE OF NEWTON FALLS, OHIO
ORDINANCE NO.: 2025-58
SPONSOR: Councilpersons Axiotis, Rufener

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO
CONTRACTS SPECIFIED HEREIN FOR THE PURCHASE OF CHEMICALS NEEDED
BY THE VILLAGE OF NEWTON FALLS WATER PLANT FOR THE CALENDAR
YEAR 2026.**

WHEREAS, It is necessary for the Village to contract for the purchase of chemicals needed for the Water Plant; and

WHEREAS, the contracts were properly advertised pursuant to law, and a bid opening was conducted on Wednesday, October 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Village Water Plant Supervisor has reviewed the bids and determined that the entities listed below submitted the lowest/best bid for each of the chemicals listed; and

WHEREAS, Council has/will appropriate funds for the purchase of these chemicals in the 2026 appropriations ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the Village of Newton Falls, Ohio:

SECTION 1: That Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into contracts with the following companies who are herein declared to be the lowest/best bidders for the purchase of the specified chemicals needed by the Village of Newton Falls Water Plant for the year 2026, and the terms and conditions of the provision of such chemicals shall be in conformity with the sealed bids submitted to the Village of Newton Falls and the contracts attached hereto.

Bonded Chemicals, Columbus, OH

Caustic Soda 50%	\$21.90/100 lbs.
Activated Carbon Watercarb 800	\$135.00/100 lbs.
Activated Carbon Watercarb 800	\$67.50/bag
Activated Carbon CB5	\$135.00/100 lbs.
Activated Carbon CB5	\$67.50/bag
Potassium Permanganate (KM _n O ₄)	\$2.29/lb.

Aquamark, Chesterland, OH

AQ-722 Aluminum Chlorhydrate	\$.530/lb.
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JCI Jones Chemicals, Barberton, OH

Chlorine	\$113.33/100 lbs.
Chlorine	\$169.99/cylinder

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-58
PAGE TWO

Sal Chemical, Weirton, WV
Hydrofluosilic Acid \$36.40/100 lbs.

SECTION 2. That all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and all deliberations of this Council or any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were taken in meetings open to the public and/or in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. That this Ordinance shall be effective as of the earliest date permitted by law.

PASSED IN COUNCIL THIS ____ DAY OF ____, 2025.

David Hanson, Mayor

Attest:

Michael Acomb, Clerk of Council

Approved as to Legal Form.

Jeff Limbian, Law Director

VILLAGE OF NEWTON FALLS
CHEMICAL BIDS FOR 2026

Exhibit A

COMPANY	CHECK/ BID BOND	ALUMINUM CHLOROHYDRATE (ACH) per 1#	CAUSTIC SODA 50% per 100#	CHLORINE per 100#	CHLORINE per cylinder	HYDRO FLUOSILIC ACID 25% per 100#	ACTIVATED CARBON - WATERCARB 800 per 100#	ACTIVATED CARBON - WATERCARB 800 per bag	CARBON CB5 per 100#	CARBON CB5 per bag	KMNO-4 per #
Shannon Chemical	BOND	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	\$ 2.93
Aquamark	CHECK	\$0.530	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID
JCI Jones Chemicals	ACH	NO BID	\$ 21.94	\$ 113.33	\$ 169.99	NO BID	\$ 132.00	\$ 66.00	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID
Sal Chemical	BOND	NO BID	\$ 27.05	NO BID	NO BID	\$ 36.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 67.50	NO BID	NO BID	\$ 2.87
Bonded Chemicals	BOND	NO BID	\$ 21.90	\$ 137.80	\$ 206.70	\$ 36.30	\$ 154.00	\$ 77.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 65.00	\$ 2.29
Phoenix	CHECK	NO BID	NO BID	\$ 160.00	\$ 240.00	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	NO BID	\$ 4.71

Bid Opening: Friday, October 31, 2025; 10:00:00 AM

Present for Opening: Mike Novotny, Cody Zeleny, Ken Bodnar

NOTE: Bids from Sal Chemicals for WaterCarb 800 were disqualified due to their bid being for a non-specific product