



**MINUTES**  
**Town of New Palestine**  
**Town Council**  
**Wednesday, March 17, 2021**  
**7:00 PM - Town Hall**

The Town Council of the Town of New Palestine was called to order on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Town Hall, with the following members present:

**PRESENT:** Council Secretary Angela Fahrnow, Council President Bill Niemier, Council Member Brandee Bastin, and Council Vice President Clint Bledsoe

Town Manager James Robinson, Police Chief Robert Ehle, and Clerk-Treasurer Yvonne Jonas

**ABSENT:** Council Member Chris Lytle

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance  
Council Member Chris Lytle was absent

**2. MINUTES**

- 2.1. Approval of minutes  
2.2. March 3, 2021 Minutes were corrected from Chamber meetings to Chamber Board meetings

[Minutes March 3, 2021](#)

**Angela Fahrnow moved, seconded by Brandee Bastin, Motion to approve minutes**

<b>RESULT:</b>	Carried
<b>MOVER:</b>	Angela Fahrnow
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Brandee Bastin
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Brandee Bastin, Bill Niemier, and Clint Bledsoe
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Chris Lytle

**3. NEW AGENDA ITEMS**

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

- 4.1. Gem South Plant proposal  
Cedar Creek lift station and force main proposal signature. Midwest Mole is the contractor. Received approval from SRF to award contract.

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

- 5.1. Randy Sorrell Economic Development update for Town of New Palestine and surrounding Township

2020 Hancock Economic Development Council Report was handed out to council members. Mr. Sorrell stated that 2020 is the biggest year Hancock County has had due to eCommerce industry. Capital investment totaled 1 billion dollars. There was discussion in regard to the Mt Comfort Corridor, as well as waterfront districts.

**Brandee Bastin moved, seconded by Clint Bledsoe, Motion to appoint Bill Niemier to HEDC**

<b>RESULT:</b>	Carried
<b>MOVER:</b>	Brandee Bastin
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Clint Bledsoe
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, and Clint Bledsoe
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Chris Lytle

- 5.2. StoreNow Ryan Leslie outdoor storage proposal US 52 & 400 West  
Ed Walter, Attorney for New Palestine Self Storage Inc. provided information. He stated the property is 8.06 acres and would be used for RV and boat outside storage. They currently have 24 spots available. It's just outside of town limits. This area is in the county area and would need to be annexed into the town. Bill Niemier asked about buffering and screening requirements. There was discussion about requirements for annexation. Rawn Walley with the Planning Board made some comments regarding RVs and proper storage.

- 5.3. Update Food Truck Ordinance  
Discuss Peddlers/farmers market permits

Tabled to next meeting agenda after reading Ordinance.

- 5.4. Re-establishment of the CCD fund tax rate

Yvonne stated that the fund tax rate must be re-established each year or it diminishes. It can be re-established back up to where it was. It will be discussed at the 2nd Meeting in April, and notifications will be published.

## 6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- 6.1. Police Chief Ehle - Body cameras have been put on hold. He discussed contract for Axon Core tasers for 7 tasers at the price of \$4,588.50 per year, including docking stations would be \$24,000 with discount in 2022 and would like to move forward with the contract.

**Angela Fahrnow moved, seconded by Bill Niemier, Motion to move forward with taser contract**

<b>RESULT:</b>	Carried
<b>MOVER:</b>	Angela Fahrnow
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bill Niemier
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, and Clint Bledsoe
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Chris Lytle

- 6.2. Town Manager Jim Robinson - Stated that Gem South 615 Fund has \$180,000 in it, and we are up to 180 homes. He also said that some large acreage fees should be coming in. Town received one roof estimate and it is \$70,000 and he intends to get 3 estimates.

Clerk-Treasurer Yvonne Jonas - expressed her need for a Deputy Clerk-Treasurer, and also discussed trying to re-organize the vault and make sure all records in there are organized and kept for the required time.

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

## 8. COUNCIL COMMENTS

- 8.1. Angela Fahrnow informed council in regard to GovOffice website update and stated they had charged for 1 year, instead of 5 months, in error. They provided 2 separate options in exchange - 29 months for \$1653 or 41 months @ 140 per month.

**Angela Fahrnow moved, seconded by Brandee Bastin, Motion to sign GovOffice Web Contract for \$1913 per year.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Angela Fahrnow
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Brandee Bastin
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, and Clint Bledsoe
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Chris Lytle

- 8.2. Mt Comfort Corridor communication  
Council member Brandee Bastin stated she is still receiving correspondence that should be going to Council president. Jim said he and Infrastructure Advisor Steve Pool received it also, and that Steve had replied.

## 9. CLAIMS

- 9.1. APVs #22269 - 22328

## 10. ADJOURN

- 10.1. Motion to adjourn

**Angela Fahrnow moved, seconded by Bill Niemier, Motion to Adjourn**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Angela Fahrnow
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bill Niemier
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, and Clint Bledsoe
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Chris Lytle

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Brandee Bastin

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Bill Niemier

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Angie Fahrnow

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Clint Bledsoe

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Chris Lytle

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Yvonne Jonas, Clerk-Treasurer



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**PRESENT:** Council Secretary Angela Fahrnow, Council President Bill Niemier, Council Member Brandee Bastin, Council Vice President Clint Bledsoe, and Council Member Chris Lytle

Town Manager James Robinson, Police Chief Robert Ehle, Infrastructure Stephen Pool, and Clerk-Treasurer Yvonne Jonas

**ABSENT:**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance

**2. MINUTES**

2.1. Approval of 2/17/21 Minutes

**Chris Lytle moved, seconded by Angela Fahrnow, Motion to approve minutes from 2/17/21**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Chris Lytle
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Angela Fahrnow
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Chris Lytle, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, and Clint Bledsoe

**3. NEW AGENDA ITEMS**

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

4.1. Sign Contract for Community Crossing

Contracts signed for Robertson Paving Inc \$143,089

**Clint Bledsoe moved, seconded by Bill Niemier, Motion to approve the Robertson Contract**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Clint Bledsoe
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bill Niemier
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, Clint Bledsoe, and Chris Lytle

4.2. Triad Service Agreement

Kent Schuch representing Triad regarding service agreement

**Chris Lytle moved, seconded by Bill Niemier, Motion to approve Triad Service Agreement**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Chris Lytle
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bill Niemier
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, Clint Bledsoe, and Chris Lytle

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

5.1. Recycling Event Electronics & Paper Shredding

Electrical Recycling at town hall and paper shredding this summer.

**Brandee Bastin moved, seconded by Chris Lytle, Motion to fund truck from CGS at town hall in the amount of \$550.29 at a date to be determined by Hancock Solid Waste Management District**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Brandee Bastin
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Chris Lytle
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, Clint Bledsoe, and Chris Lytle

5.2. Shank Room change to Police Education Room

**Angela Fahrnow moved, seconded by Bill Niemier, Close the Shank room to the public change to police education room.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Angela Fahrnow
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bill Niemier
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Clint Bledsoe, and Chris Lytle
<b>NAYS:</b>	Brandee Bastin

**Bill Niemier moved, seconded by Brandee Bastin, Motion to open the Shank Room for Chamber Meetings**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Bill Niemier
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Brandee Bastin
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, and Chris Lytle
<b>NAYS:</b>	Clint Bledsoe

5.3. Outside Audit for Sewer Financials

**Angela Fahrnow moved, seconded by Bill Niemier, Motion to seek bids outside audit firm for sewer.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Angela Fahrnow
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bill Niemier
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, and Chris Lytle
<b>NAYS:</b>	Clint Bledsoe

5.4. Update .gov website/ iCompass website

**Angela Fahrnow moved to upgrade town website, seconded by Clint Bledsoe,**

**Motion to update the .gov website at \$1653/year**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Angela Fahrnow
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Clint Bledsoe
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, Clint Bledsoe, and Chris Lytle

**6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Bob:** Summer Fest asking about temp alcoholic permits and shutting down 52. Main Street to present to town council.

Looking at add Chevy Tahoe truck to police \$38,000.

New Tasers needed for Police Dept

Body Cam contract ending in April 2022.

Discussion on the 1977 PERF Plan

**James:** Cleaning at town hall in supply closets. Mark cleaned windows and street cleaner was out on 52.

**Yvonne:** Final bills paid on the Nichols building. Employee Handbooks are being reviewed and considered. 3 samples were given to council members, town manager, and clerk treasurer.

Would like to pursue looking at a deputy clerk. A new vacuum cleaner was purchased for town hall.

**Steve:** The high school would like for us to store salt at the town salt barn for the school. Round about meeting with the utilities. Duke will start next week. Vectren will start in 2-3 weeks after they renew their bond. Still planing on starting 5/10/2021.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

N/A

**8. COUNCIL COMMENTS**

No council comments

**9. CLAIMS**

9.1. Claims

**Angela Fahrnow moved, seconded by Bill Niemier, Motion to approve claims #22214-22268**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Carried</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Angela Fahrnow
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bill Niemier
<b>AYES:</b>	Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, Clint Bledsoe, and Chris Lytle

**10. ADJOURN**

**Angela Fahrnow moved, seconded by Clint Bledsoe, Motion to Adjourn**

**RESULT:** Carried  
**MOVER:** Angela Fahrnow  
**SECONDER:** Clint Bledsoe  
**AYES:** Angela Fahrnow, Bill Niemier, Brandee Bastin, Clint Bledsoe, and Chris Lytle

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Brandee Bastin

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Bill Niemier

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Angie Fahrnow

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Clint Bledsoe

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Chris Lytle

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Yvonne Jonas, Clerk-Treasurer