



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
APRIL 11, 2016, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Edwards, Stokes, Mayor Pro-tem Hartke, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were, Superintendent Tom Helm, Engineer Narendra Patel, Addison St. John, Jeff Curry and Neoga News Reporter Billie Chambers.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Stokes made a motion to approve the regular session minutes from March 28, 2016, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioners Stokes, Edwards, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP**

**AMA HILLCLIMB DONATION**

Commissioner Edwards said that after reviewing the information about the hill climb coming up in July he felt that this would bring people into Neoga, and the city should give a donation. Commissioner Stokes agreed. Mayor Pro-tem Hartke said that after reviewing the sponsorship packages he believes the city should donate \$500. City Clerk Evans recommended that the City donate \$1000 which entitles them to a 10' x 10' display or vendor booth which the city could donate to an organization if they wanted to. After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the council to get additional information and bring it to the next meeting.

**CLEANING BIDS**

Mayor Pro-tem Hartke opened the cleaning bids and read them as follows:

Audrina J. Riley - \$400.00 / month  
Shari Morrison - \$375.00 / month

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to keep the cleaning local by hiring Shari Morrison at \$375 / month. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

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CITY CLEANUP

City Clerk Evans said that she has been getting quotes for the city wide cleanup, and so far she has not been able to find someone to do a curbside cleanup. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to proceed with dumpsters being placed on a Saturday to be determined by the sanitation service. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

**FINANCE, COMMISSIONER HARTKE**  
TREASURER'S REPORT

After viewing the treasurer's report, Mayor Pro-tem Hartke ordered the financial reports to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Mayor Pro-tem Hartke told the council that according to the treasurer's report the general fund had over \$228,600, and the water account had over \$162,800. Hartke recommended to move some of the money to the reserve fund that has a better interest rate. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to move \$100,000 from the general fund and \$75,000 from the water account to the reserve accounts. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER STOKES**  
WWTP IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Engineer Patel presented to the council a preliminary project timeline for the wastewater treatment plant improvement project. Patel said that everything is in motion, and he will continue to update the council as needed.

CEMETERY MOWING BIDS

Commissioner Stokes opened the cemetery bids as follows:

- |                    |          |
|--------------------|----------|
| 1. M & E Lawn      | \$500.00 |
| 2. LDJ Grass       | \$500.00 |
| 3. St. John's Lawn | \$400.00 |
| 4. Marlow Lawn     | \$595.00 |

Commissioner Edwards asked if the City has received any complaints on the company that currently mows the cemetery. Evans told the council that the only complaint was in regards to a stone which M & E had repaired, otherwise they do a great job. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to keep the mowing local and award it to LDJ Grass & Snow LLC, for \$500 / mowing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

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MAINTENANCE SHOP PROPERTY

Superintendent Helm said that the old dirt pile behind the shop has been removed and is ready to be grass seeded. Helm said that he has received a quote from Thomas Lawn Service & Repair in the amount of \$1,475. After a lengthy discussion between the Council members, it was the consensus to have the public works employees spread the grass seed.

REVIEW OF THE WATER AND SEWER RATES

City Clerk Evans stated that she included the current water and sewer rates for their review. Mayor Pro-tem Hartke told the Council that he had requested these rates be reviewed; however, with the current wastewater plant improvements now is not the time to decrease the rates. Commissioners Edwards and Stokes agreed.

**STREETS & ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS**

2016 MFT

Commissioner Edwards asked Superintendent Helm if any of the streets needed to have any work done this year, and Superintendent Helm said that the roads looked good. City Clerk Evans asked if the roads that didn't get oiled and chipped from last year needed to be done. Mayor Pro-tem Hartke said that the city did not want the roads to get in bad shape, so if they needed it last year Helm should look at them again. Helm said he would have a report for the next meeting.

Mayor Pro-tem Hartke said that the sidewalks along Walnut Avenue need to be handicap accessible. Currently the crossings at 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> Street do not have handicap ramps. City Clerk Evans said she would talk to Cumberland County Engineer Ben Bland.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY**

No report was given

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to move into executive session for Purchase or Lease of Real Estate - Section 2 (c) (5) – includes general discussion of whether land should be purchased or leased by the public body at 8:07 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

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**RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was reconvened at 8:28 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Edwards. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Edwards, Stokes, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioners Edwards, Stokes, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

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Brenda Evans, City Clerk

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Date