



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
AUGUST 12, 2013, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Modglin. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, Mayor Modglin, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were City Treasurer Foor, Superintendent Tom Helm, Legal Counsel Tracy Willenborg, Bob Kearney, Cathy Strohl, Tom Strohl, Lewis Ryder, Wendy Bushue, and Lisa Mull. Commissioner Groves arrived at 7:45 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Kepp made a motion to approve the regular session minutes from July 22, 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioners Kepp, Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR MODGLIN**

Adult Orientated Business – Bob Kearney

Businessman Bob Kearney introduced himself and explained to the Council his desire to purchase Lot #4 at the Industrial Park. Mr. Kearney said that he would like to build a new Morton building and relocate his current business there. Currently, he is located on Rt. #121, and if he relocate to this location he predicts that his business will expand. Mayor Modglin explained that the industrial park cost a lot of money to build, and one requirement was to have over 20 full time employees before a business could locate there. Mr. Kearney explained that at this time he employs almost 30 part time employees and that is for his current hours. If he is able to locate in the Industrial Park he expects to have hours from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday, so he is very confident that he will have over 20 full time employees. Mr. Kearney asked that the Council review his business plan and consider selling the property at the Industrial Park. Mayor Modglin told Mr. Kearney that the Council will review the business plan.

RESOLUTION # 15-08-13     A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Service Agreement with the Lowest Responsible Bidder for the Supply of Electricity for Residential and Small Commercial Retail Customers Who Do Not Opt Out of Such a Program

After reviewing the Resolution, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioners Kepp, Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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### UPDATE ON MAPPING PROGRAM/ITEP GRANT APPLICATION AND TRASH RECEPTACLES

City Treasurer and Chairperson for the MAPPING Group #4 Diana Foor explained that the ITEP grant has changed again, and now they will be looking for grants for sidewalks as well as bike routes. Foor said according to Lee Beckman with Milano & Grunloh Engineers, the sidewalks will be ADA Compliant. Foor said that she is concerned about spending the matching funds of \$200,000 on a sidewalk from the elementary school to the high school and still not have a complete loop around town. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to proceed with the grant application and if the City of Neoga is awarded the grant, the council can make the final decision at that time. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

### PURCHASE OF TRASH CANS

Diana Foor told the Council that she has looked at the decorative trash cans that were out at the CITGO Station again. Foor said that she has spoke to Don Hardesty who is selling them for the property owner, and if the Council agrees, the City can purchase all 6 cans for less than \$320.00. Foor told the council that some cans do not have lids, and one can will need a liner which should be able to be purchased through Lorenz Wholesale. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to approve the purchase of all the trash cans, lids and liners as discussed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

### IML CONFERENCE

City Clerk Evans told the Council that the IML Conference was coming up again in October and asked if they could attend. After the Council reviewed the projected costs, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to approve both City Clerk Evans and City Treasurer Foor to attend the IML Conference. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

### BACKPACK DONATION

Wendy Bushue and Lisa Mull explained to the Council that they have started the Cumberland County 2013 School Supplies Drive. The purpose for the drive is to supply each and every student throughout Cumberland County school districts with school supplies and backpacks. After a lengthy discussion, Mayor Modglin explained the process that the City of Neoga follows when donating to any organization, and that we would donate up to the same amount as Neoga Township. Modglin also recommended that they contact Denise Padgett and Amy Baker to see how they can assist with their backpack ministries.

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**FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES**

TREASURER'S REPORT

After reviewing the treasurer report, Mayor Modglin ordered the financial report to be placed into the files of the City Clerk

ANNUAL TREASURER'S CONFERENCE

City Treasurer Foor told the Council that she will have her recertification conference coming up in Bloomington from November 19 – 21. Foor said that this conference will allow her the continuing education points needed to keep her certification. With little discussion, Commissioner Groves made a motion to allow Treasurer Foor to attend the conference in Bloomington. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER KEPP**

PAY REQUEST FROM PHOENIX CONSULTING

The Council reviewed two pay requests from Phoenix Consulting. With little discussion, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to pay both requests in the amount of \$5,420.00 for services rendered on the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Water main Replacement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PAY REQUEST FROM PHOENIX CONSULTING

The Council reviewed two pay requests from Phoenix Consulting. After reviewing the requests, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to pay both requests totaling \$1368.00 for services rendered on the water tower inspection. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER HARTKE**

2013 MFT PROJECT

Commissioner Hartke updated the Council on the 2013 MFT Project. According to Hartke, all the proposed streets have been tilled, and work should have been started right away; however, the contractor brought the wrong rock in, and that has pushed the project back a couple weeks.

TREE REMOVAL

Commissioner Hartke also discussed having some trees removed that are located on the City's boulevard. Hartke said that he has discussed it with Superintendent Helm but will check with him again.

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**HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY**

Commissioner Lindley told the council that he would still like to see a tire recycling program very soon, and he is still working on it. Lindley said that he is also hopeful to get the house on Shaffer Avenue torn down soon.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Tom Strohl mentioned to the Council some concerns he had. Strohl said that he has noticed erosion next to the bridge on Elm Avenue between 9<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Street. He suggested that some large over size rock could be placed in the area to stop the erosion. Strohl also said that there was a log jam in that same area which is backing up water as far back as Rt. #45 when a large rain comes. Mayor Modglin said that Superintendent Helm will look at both.

Mr. Strohl also asked the council on the policy for riding lawn mowers home for lunch. According to Strohl a city employee is riding the lawn mower home for lunch, and the taxpayers are paying his wages to ride to and from his house.

Resident Strohl also asked the Council if there was any way that the road in front of his house at 672 Shaffer could be wider to allow for vehicles stopped to pick up children from the bus stop. Mayor Modglin thanked Mr. Strohl for pointing these items out and said that the City would address them as soon as possible.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to move into executive session at 8:10 p.m. for Personnel – Section 2 c (1) employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

**RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was reconvened at 9:20 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Groves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin.

**APPOINTMENT OF POLICE CHIEF**

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to appoint Officer Andy Schabbing as the new Chief of Police at a salary of \$41,000 and with a probation period of 6 months. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT**

Commissioner Groves made a motion to terminate Public Works employee Joseph Wiltermood effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp.

Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, Commissioner Hartke. Motion carried. 4-1.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Kepp made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioners Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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Howard W. Modglin, Mayor

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Brenda Evans, City Clerk

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Date