



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
AUGUST 26, 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, Hartke, Groves, Mayor Modglin, and City Clerk Evans. Commissioner Kepp arrived at 7:06. Others present were City Treasurer Foor, Superintendent Tom Helm, Engineer Tom Overmyer, Cathy Strohl, and Tom Strohl.

MINUTES

Commissioner Lindley made a motion to approve the regular and executive session minutes from August 12, 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioners Lindley, Hartke, Groves, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR MODGLIN

TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT

After reviewing the calendar, Commissioner Groves made a motion to designate October 31, 2013 as trick or treat night from 6 pm to 8 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

UPDATE ON OTHER TAXING BODIES

Diana Foor told the Council that she has been trying to keep the MAPPING groups active. Foor said that Group 1 has not been meeting and asked for help with anyone in that group. Foor said that the military signs have been ordered and the Veteran's Memorial group will be meeting on September 19th to discuss it more. Foor also said that the flags are in, and if volunteers can get the flags in the extremely dry ground, they will be put up for the Labor Day weekend.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES

Commissioner Groves told the Council that Chief Schabbing stopped by the First Christian Church Vacation Bible School last week and interacted with the children. Groves said that this was a very positive step towards communicating with the younger generation.

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BILLS

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Groves made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$33,889.88. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioners Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER KEPP

NEOGA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #3

Commissioner Kepp updated the council about the situation with the Neoga School District #3. According to Kepp, a report from the National Teachers Association says that the school district has less than 2 years before a referendum must be passed. Commissioner Groves said that he has reviewed the school budget, and he feels that the school district does not have 2 years. Kepp said he is very concerned about the school issue and feels that the City of Neoga should be active in assisting the school in any way that is needed. The Council agreed with Commissioner Kepp on assisting the school in every way possible.

SKATE PARK DONATION

Tom Helm approached the Council asking for a donation to the Neoga Township Park District to help defray the cost of some used skate board equipment. Helm explained that there has been many requests for a skate park, and recently the park district purchased over \$50,000 worth of used equipment for only \$3150. However, there is the cost to ship it to Neoga at approximately \$1600 per trip and there will be 3 trips in all. Helm also said that the park will have to place signs around the skate park for rules and regulations which will be an additional \$300 - \$400. According to Helm the skate park will be located on one end of the tennis courts, and will cost a total of about \$7000. Commissioner Kepp made a motion to donate \$3500 towards the skate park. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER HARTKE

2013 MFT PROJECT

Superintendent Helm informed the Council that the 2013 MFT oil and chipping will begin Thursday, August 29th weather permitting. Helm also said that Walnut Avenue will be resurfaced starting early September.

TREE REMOVAL

Commissioner Hartke told the council that he assisted Superintendent Helm on selecting seven (7) trees that are dead along city boulevards. Superintendent Helm obtained the following quotes to have the trees, stumps and grindings removed. The quotes were opened by Commissioner Hartke and are as follows:

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Thomas Lawn service.....\$3680.00
M & E.....\$3050.00
Shade Shifters.....\$4250.00

After the bids were reviewed, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to award the bid to M & E in the amount of \$3050. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. 5-0.

SALE OF OLD STREET SIGNS

Dave Antrim has asked Superintendent Helm about purchasing old street signs to display at the Depot restaurant. Helm said that there are old signs available to sell if the City wants to. According to Helm, there are approximately 2/3 of the street signs available, and Antrim only needs approximately 11 signs. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to sell the signs to the public for \$10 per sign. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cathy and Tom Strohl told the council that they are concerned about the north side of 6th Street between Chestnut and the alley. According to Tom Strohl the landscape area has a drop off next to the sidewalk where someone could fall off the sidewalk and get hurt. Also, they mentioned the curb area around First Mid-Illinois Bank and Trust has weeds and rock along it which is not attractive for the downtown area. Superintendent Helm said he would work on getting those areas back up to par.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

No report was given.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Groves made a motion to move into executive session at 7:45 p.m. for Sale or Lease of Real Estate – Section 2 (c) (6) - limited to actual setting of price for sale or lease of public property. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 8:10 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Groves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin.

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ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Groves made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioners Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Howard W. Modglin, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date