



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
FEBRUARY 27, 2017, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Kepp. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Edwards, Hartke, Stokes, Mayor Kepp, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were, Public Works Superintendent Tom Helm, Engineer Narendra Patel, Wes Chambers, Billie Chambers, Engineer Lee Beckman, Richard Russell, Ashley Dryden, Emily Wasmuth, Triston Stumpt, Sherri Huckaba, Paul Huckaba, and Greg Jamerson.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to approve the regular and executive session minutes from February 13, 2017 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioners Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP**

CUMBERLAND COUNTY LIFE CENTER DONATION

City Clerk Evans told the Council that the Cumberland County Life Center is asking for a donation. According to Evans, the City of Neoga has not donated since 2013 when \$750 was given to them. After a lengthy discussion it was the consensus to wait to see what Neoga Township donates.

CCDC DUES

CCDC President Billie Chambers told the Council that the Cumberland County Development Corporation is asking for the annual \$1000 dues for each community in Cumberland County. Chambers said that the main focus for CCDC is to promote businesses coming into the county. Due to the current state status, that has been very difficult. Now CCDC is looking into helping promote current businesses. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to pay the annual dues of \$1,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

AMERENCIPS POLES

Mayor Kepp told the Council that he spoke with AmerenCIPS regarding the number of poles located at the 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Oak Avenue intersection. Kepp said that according to the AmerenCIPS representative, there would be no cost to the city to have them removed

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with the exception of the one located on the southeast corner. If these poles are removed it would help declutter the area. Mayor Kepp said that the only problem is that AmerenCIPS will not allow us to keep the red flashing light on their poles. After a lengthy discussion regarding the lighting in the area, it was the consensus of the Council to table the matter until additional information is obtained about the lighting options.

**FINANCE, COMMISSIONER HARTKE**  
**MONTHLY BILLS**

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$86,443.79. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**ACTUARY AGREEMENT**

City Clerk Evans told the Council that at the last meeting City Treasurer Foor spoke to them about the need for an actuary audit. Evans said that Foor has researched the options and recommended proceeding with Foster & Foster, Inc. After the Council reviewed the agreement, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to accept the agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER STOKES**  
**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Engineer Lee Beckman told the Council that the IEPA has accepted the one year extension and the preliminary engineering report has been submitted to Rural Development in early 2017.

Beckman also updated the Council on the DCEO Grant for the water lines on the east side of Rt. #45. Beckman said that the grant application was submitted in September 2016, and he is hopeful that announcements will be made in a couple weeks.

Engineer Beckman also told the Council that the Back to School sidewalk grant had a map amendment submitted to IDOT back in July 2016; however, it is still sitting in Springfield for approval.

Mr. Beckman brought the Council up to date on the ditch project out by the industrial park. Beckman said that the ESR was submitted in September 2016. The biological and cultural sign-offs were not completed in the "green" time frame and therefore will not be completed until May 2017.

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**CMOM AGREEMENT**

Superintendent Helm presented to the Council an agreement with Fehr Graham regarding the annual CMOM report. Helm stated that with this being his first year doing the report he would need some help. With that being said, Helm asked that Narendra Patel assist with it because he was the one who did it last year. After a discussion, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to accept an agreement with Fehr Graham for the CMOM Annual Report in the amount of \$1500. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards, Ayers, Commissioner Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS**  
**NEOGA MEMORIAL CEMETERY ROAD**

No report was given.

**IDOT AGREEMENT**

Mayor Kepp said that IDOT has revised the plans for resurfacing Rt. #45. Kepp stated that the handicap ramp on the northeast corner of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Oak Avenue will now have the same footprint as the other three corners. After little discussion, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to accept the agreement with IDOT. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY**

No report was given.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Paul Huckaba asked the council if or when something was going to get done with the water. Huckaba said that he has his grandchildren at his house often, and he is worried about the chlorine smell and taste. Huckaba said that his brother-in-law works for another water company, and he tested the water and said it tested high for chlorine. Superintendent Helm reassured Huckaba that the water was fine to drink and /or cook with.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion at 7:37 pm to move into executive session for Personnel - Section 2 (c) (1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance, and 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. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Hartke, Stokes, Lindley and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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**RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioners Edwards, Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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Brenda Evans, City Clerk

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Date