

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
MARCH 12, 2012, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by pro-tem mayor Ronnie Groves. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Kepp, Hartke, Lindley, Pro-tem Mayor Groves, and City Treasurer Diana Foor. Mayor Wayne Modglin arrived at 8:05 p.m. Others present were Bob Thomas, Brad Foor from System Development Services, Glenn Braden from Braden Law Office, Tom Helm, and Danya Eastin. Billie Chambers and Wes Chambers arrived at 8:05 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Marty Hartke made a motion to approve the regular session minutes from February 27<sup>th</sup> as presented, and it was seconded by Larry Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Lindley, Mayor Pro-Tem Groves. Nays, none. Motion carried 4-0.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**SPECIAL LIQUOR LICENSE FOR NEOGA DAYS**

After a brief discussion, Tony Kepp made a motion to approve the special liquor license for Neoga Days but table the decision on the cost of the license until the ordinance is reviewed. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Groves, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

**EMERGENCY PHONE TREE, BOB THOMAS**

Bob Thomas updated the council on a discussion he had with ESDA coordinator William Roderick and the Neoga Fire Department. They asked if the City would consider sending out a calling tree alert to citizens when the Lincoln Weather Center issues a tornado warning or severe storm warning with a threat of hail and high winds. Thomas suggested that the ESDA coordinator and the City Administrator could coordinate the details for calls made outside of normal City office hours. The Council asked Thomas to put a plan together with Roderick and bring it to the next council meeting.

Marty Hartke asked Mr. Thomas if he thought the City would benefit from having additional early warning sirens in town. Thomas agreed that it would be helpful because some homes cannot hear the sirens if the winds are blowing harshly. Mr. Thomas agreed to talk with Mr. Roderick about getting an estimate for additional sirens.

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**LEGAL COUNCIL WITH BRADEN LAW OFFICE**

Glenn Braden from Braden Law Office informed the Council that he contacted Attorney Mark Karpus from Mattoon to see if he would be willing to take on some of the City's legal cases. Glenn stated that Mr. Karpus would help on issues that would otherwise be a conflict of interest, or he could be utilized when there were deadlines that had to be met. The City would still contact Braden, and he would then contact Karpus. Mr. Braden will ask him to attend the next council meeting.

**PURCHASE OF COMPUTERS, SERVER, AND OFFSITE BACKUP**

Brad Foor from System Development Services informed the Council that City Clerk Evans requested quotes for new computers for the City Treasurer and the Police Department, and a server. Foor went over the quote for the computers, and also discussed backup options, including cloud backup. With this option, the City would still need to have a server, but crucial records would be stored offsite. After a brief discussion, Tony Kepp made a motion to purchase 2 computers, monitors, Office 2010, and a new server, and to not proceed with the cloud backup at this time. He also approved spending up to \$200 for a refurbished printer for the Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Marty Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Pro-Tem Mayor Groves. Nays, none. Motion carried 4 – 0.

**DONATION FROM COUNCIL FOR CEMETERY PAMPHLETS**

Mayor Modglin asked the council if they would be interested in making a personal donation to the City to defray the cost of the cemetery pamphlets that were printed last year. City Treasurer Foor was asked to research the total cost of the pamphlets, including postage, and copying costs. Her estimate was that 1,000 copies were made, and approximately 600 were mailed. Commissioner Kepp made the motion to make a personal donation to cover the costs of the cemetery pamphlets. It was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Hartke, Groves, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried 5 – 0.

**FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

After reviewing the treasurer report, Mayor Pro-Tem Groves ordered the financial report to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

**REVIEW OF INTEREST RATES ON CITY ACCOUNTS**

City Treasurer Foor explained the interest rates that the City is currently getting. She noted that the checking accounts for the general and water funds are currently carrying large balances, and the funds could be getting a better return if they were transferred to the City's existing money market reserve accounts. After a brief discussion

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Commissioner Kepp made a motion to leave approximately \$50,000 in the water checking account and transfer \$150,000 to the water reserve account and carry a balance of between \$30,000 - \$50,000 in the general checking account and transfer \$50,000 to the general reserve accounts. Commissioner Hartke seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-Tem Groves. Nays, none. Motion carried 4 – 0.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER KEPP**

**WATER TOWER REPAINTING**

Superintendent Tom Helm gave the council an update on the water tower repainting project. He stated that project engineer Tom Overmyer informed him the contractor was offering to decrease their bid by \$4,200 if the antennas were removed from the tower. One suggestion was to put up a 40 foot pole and transfer the antennas to it. After a lengthy discussion, the council decided they needed more information before making a decision. The project engineer will be contacted. Helm also informed the council that the contractor will start bringing in equipment this week and hope to start on the project in approximately 2 weeks.

**CDAP GRANT**

Nothing new was reported on the grant.

**RESOLUTION #03-03-12** A Resolution Accepting a Sealed Bid Cash Rent And Authorizing The Mayor And City Clerk To Execute A Cash Rent Farm Lease With Scott And Leslie Partlow.

After reviewing the proposed resolution, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to approve the resolution to accept the cash rent sealed bid from Scott and Leslie Partlow. Commissioner Hartke seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Lindley, Hartke, Mayor Pro-Tem Groves. Nays, none. Motion carried 4 – 0.

**WATER PUMP VARIABLE FREQUENCY DRIVE**

Superintendent Tom Helm explained the estimate from Illinois Electric Works for a variable frequency drive (VFD) for the existing high service water pump. Helm explained that this will be a back up for the City's high service pump during the water tower painting project. This will be a permanent fixture after the water tower project is completed. The total cost is \$5,218, but Ameren DCEO is offering the City a rebate of \$1,380 for the pump drive upgrade. The paperwork for the rebate will be submitted after the installation is complete. Commissioner Kepp made a motion to purchase the High Service Pump Drive at a total cost of \$5,218.00 and a rebate of \$1,380. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Hartke, Kepp, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried 5 – 0.

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Helm informed the council that a bladder tank containing pumps will be positioned at the water plant. Additional water tanks for storage will be located at the High School front parking lot and the ASW Truckstop parking lot. School Superintendent Charles Castle was informed about the project and the positioning of the tank in the school's parking lot.

**STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER HARTKE**

2012 MFT

Commissioner Hartke told the Council that he asked City Clerk Evans to submit to the State the list of additional streets to be oiled.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY**

Commissioner Lindley did not have anything new to inform the council on. He mentioned that he is still working on the details of a tire pick up.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Groves made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Kepp, Lindley, Groves, 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