



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT
AUGUST 3, 2009, AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Modglin, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Kepp, Groves, Varner, Mayor Modglin, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were Police Chief Mattern.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from July 20, 2009, Commissioner Varner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioners Varner, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Commissioner Kepp abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIR

CUMBERLAND COUNTY FAIR BOX SEATS

Mayor Modglin explained to the Council that the city has been purchasing box seats at the Cumberland County Fair for years, and the time has come again to purchase the tickets. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to continue to support the fair and purchase the tickets. The council wanted to make sure that all employees get a chance to use the tickets.

IML CONFERENCE

The annual IML conference being held in Chicago on September 24 – 26 was discussed. It was the consensus of the Council to table a decision until next meeting.

PRICE QUOTES FOR POLICE RADIOS

Police Chief Gerald Mattern explained to the Council that he received a quote with Barbecks about a new radio, and after negotiating with them the price for the radio in the squad car would be \$2400.80. However, the price would not include a siren which is needed as well. The Council members felt it was necessary to have a radio and siren as soon as possible. After a brief discussion, the Council instructed Chief Mattern to proceed with the radio and contact the Mayor for approval on the siren. Also the Council asked Mattern to proceed with placing the graphics on the 2007 squad car as well.

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FINANCE

Commissioner Kepp told the council that he has been reviewing the City's financial records, and he is concerned about the money being spent. It was the recommendation of Commissioner Kepp to suspend any spending unless it is approved or its an emergency. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the council to start looking at the invoices closer and to get an inventory list from the department heads.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

SUPERINTENDENT HAGERSTROM REPORT

City Clerk Evans informed the Council that Superintendent Hagerstrom would not be at the meeting due to an emergency in the family, and that he supplied us with a written report. The Council reviewed the report as well as reviewed a cost estimate for raising a lift station on Cedar Avenue. With little discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to move ahead with the lift station and place the approval on the next agenda.

Mayor Modglin asked the status of the insurance claim for Ramerts. City Clerk Evans said that she has spoken with the claims department and they are sending out an adjuster to meet with the Mr. & Mrs. Ramert. Mayor Modglin again mentioned that it was imperative that the homeowners have a system in place so that raw sewage does not back up into their basements.

CEMETERY FEES

City Clerk Evans gave the Council members a spreadsheet on fees at area cemeteries. Evans explained that currently Swengel O'Dell Funeral Home charges \$400 as an opening and closing fee which is given to the company that digs the hole. After discussing the fees and cost to maintain the cemetery, Commissioner Varner made a motion to increase the lot fees to \$350 per lot. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Groves, Lindley, Kepp and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

ADAMS MEMORIAL ESTIMATE

After reviewing a quote from Adams Monuments to repair approximately 47 monuments, Commissioner Varner made a motion to proceed with the repairs which will cost \$3475. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

The Council also discussed the cemetery committee and the estate money that is still in the cemetery fund. After a lengthy discussion on setting a deadline to have the money spent, the council instructed City Clerk Evans to send a letter to all the members explaining that need to spend this money no later than February 2010 and inform the members that anyone can call a meeting.

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UPDATE ON LIFT STATION AT TRUE'S

Superintendent Hagerstrom was not at the meeting to give the update.

POOLS

Commissioner Kepp told the Council that he has noticed a few pools without fences around them. City Clerk Evans said that she has sent out letters to some residents, and Commissioner Groves said that he received a call from someone who received a letter. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to give those who received the letters no more than one week to comply with City ordinances.

STREETS AND ALLEYS

ELM AVENUE REPAIRS

The Council reviewed the repair cost for Elm Avenue that a farmer's equipment damaged. After discussion, Commissioner Groves made a motion to repair only the damaged area. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Varner, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Commissioner Lindley stated that he has noticed a number of homes that are not being taken care of and will be watching them.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Kepp to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Varner, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Howard W. Modglin, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date