



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT
FEBRUARY 16, 2010, AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-Tem Kepp, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Varner, Groves, Mayor Pro-Tem Kepp, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were Superintendent Hagerstrom, Paul & Sherri Huckaba, Linc Andrews, Marty Hartke, Ed Szatkowski, and Jerry Weber.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from February 1, 2010 and executive session minutes from January 18 and February 1, 2010, Commissioner Groves made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioners Groves, Varner, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-Tem Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIR

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

City Clerk Evans told the Council that she has spoken with Phyllis Kruger, Bill O'Dell, Charlie McKinney, Nancy Lawson, and David Greeson who all agreed to serve on the Neoga Memorial Cemetery board. Evans also said that the committee would like to recommend an arch being built for the cemetery in the amount of \$15,500. That price will also include installation. After little discussion, Commissioner Varner made a motion to appoint the 5 people to the board, and purchase an arch for \$15,500. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Lindley, Groves, and Mayor Pro-Tem Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

NEOGA DAYS REQUEST

Linc Andrews and Marty Hartke discussed with the Council the possibility of having a beer garden during the Neoga Days Celebration. Andrews said that they are planning on entertainment, such as a band, from 7-11p.m. on the tennis courts so that everything is enclosed. Mayor Pro-Tem Kepp said that he has spoken with a few people in the community and did not have any negative feed back. Paul Huckaba said that he has no problem with the beer tent; however, there may be some people that will not attend Neoga

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Days because of the beer tent. Andrews asked the Council if they would give the Neoga Days Committee written support for the beer tent. It was the consensus of the Council that due to the fact the park is operated under the park district, it would be necessary for the Neoga Days committee to get approval for the beer tent from the park district first and then come back to the Council.

ORDINANCE #794-02-2010 An ordinance to Amend Ordinance No. 515-12-87 Entitled "An Ordinance Fixing The Salaries of Employees of the City of Neoga".

After reviewing Ordinance #794-02-2010, Commissioner Varner made a motion to accept the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioners Varner, Lindley, Groves, and Mayor Pro-Tem Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

ED SZATKOWSKI

Ed Szatkowski discussed with the Council his concerns about a Dollar General store coming into Neoga. Szatkowski, who works for a grocery distributor, said that he has seen many of these stores go into a community and put the local grocery store out of business. Szatkowski handed a flyer from a local Dollar General store to show that 75 – 80% of their items are grocery related. Szatkowski said that he understands that no one can stop competition; however, he wants to make sure that if the City is giving anything to Dollar General that they are giving it to the other businesses as well. Jerry Weber said that the Village of Teutopolis does not have a TIF district because they can not compete with Effingham's TIF districts. Mayor Pro-Tem Kepp said that he understood Szatkowski's concern, and that he is concerned about a TIF or Business district as well.

FINANCE

BILLS

After reviewing the bills, Commissioner Groves made a motion to pay the bills totaling \$24,253.41. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Varner, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-Tem Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried 4-0.

TREASURER REPORT

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

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PUBLIC PROPERTY

SUPERINTENDENT HAGERSTROM REPORT

Superintendent Hagerstrom handed out a report to the Council on what the public works department has been doing. The report included the following:

Water:

- Found leak at ASW, had to pump out vault to find shut-off
- Called Walks, they found leak inside pump house
- Ran shut-off list & reconnects
- Received chemical delivery & stored
- Hauled potassium to pump house
- Took various water samples & shipped out
- Stan took week vacation, guys started 40 hour shifts

Sewer:

- pH meter & probe not working, had to cleaned, test & recalibrated; bad meter
- discussed electrical problem on pump 1 in C-well w/ pump rep.
- pump 2 in S-well tripped, pulled & cleaned off rags
- read lift-stations
- pumped digester to N-lagoon & tested sludge sample

Streets:

- Spread sand & plowed snow after Feb. 9th & 15th
- Adjusted chains on sand spreader
- Weak battery in little dump, pulled & load tested, supposed to be good
- Battery on little dump kept going down, won't start without booster
- Pulled battery again & replaced battery, got ½ credit on old battery
- Hauled cold-mix during warm temp, warmed up in shop overnight
- Finished patch on E. 5th sewer repair
- Checked battery, fluids & cleaned dump truck & sand-spreader

Misc:

- Worked on welding table
- Pulled damaged bumper off F-350, heated & reshaped
- Remounted bumper, still needs cleaned & painted

TRUE LIFT STATION

Superintendent Hagerstrom said that there was nothing new to report.

WATER RATE SUMMARY

No action taken as of yet

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STREETS AND ALLEYS

City Clerk Evans told the Council that County Engineer Ben Bland informed her that the County may schedule work to be done on Walnut Avenue. However, the details are not complete.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

No report was given.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Varner to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Lindley, Groves, and Mayor Pro-Tem Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Howard W. Modglin, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date