



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT
January 23, 2012, 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, Hartke, Groves, Mayor Modglin, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, Chief of Police Julius, Building Inspector Gary Kastl, Sara Young, Norm Romack, and Paul Romack.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular and executive session minutes from January 9th, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to approve them as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEOGA DAYS

Neoga Days representative Sara Young discussed the possibility of applying for a liquor license for Neoga Days. Young explained that the Neoga Days committee will be keeping the same insurance company and security company as last year. It was the consensus of the Council to have the Neoga Days Committee proceed with the application process. They have already received permission from the Neoga Park Board.

Mrs. Young also asked if 6th Street between Park Avenue and the bridge located to the west of Park Avenue could be closed during the carnival hours. Young said that Neoga Days is planning on holding the laser tag game inside the fenced school playground. However, because the younger kids will be crossing between that area and the park, they would like to close that street off. It was a concern of the Council to close the road off because of a bottle neck area around the park. Another concern is if a new T-ball field is constructed on the south west side of the park there would be nowhere the traffic could turn around. It was agreed that Young should talk to the Park board about the construction of the T-ball field and get back with the Council on closing the road.

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NEOGA MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Mayor Modglin explained to the Council the results of the cemetery survey. According to the surveys that were returned, 93% agreed to pursue funding from the Neoga Township for the cemetery maintenance. Mayor Modglin informed the Council that the average dollar amount to request was \$14,833. The other questions regarding the special board and an intergovernmental agreement were all agreed upon as well. After a lengthy discussion, the Council decided to notify Neoga News about the results of the survey. City Clerk Evans will prepare three petitions to present to the Neoga Township for the Annual meeting in April.

785 W. 10TH STREET

Property owner Paul Romack explained to the Council that he built a garage which is 30' X 28'8". However, he did add a porch to it which makes it 30' X 37'8", and the maximum size for a garage is 30' X 36'. Building Inspector Kastl explained that the building was built without the city's knowledge, and when it was reported to him he tried to contact Romack numerous times to notify him about the need for a building permit application. When Kastl did inspect the building, he informed Romack that it was not compliant with the Zoning Ordinance, and he would have to contact the City of Neoga. After a lengthy discussion, the Council informed Mr. Romack that he would have to apply for a variance from the Zoning Board.

NEOGA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police Julius presented to the Council the cost comparison of the part time officers to one full time officer. Julius told the Council if another full time officer was hired it would extend the hours of police coverage by 18 hours per week. The City would then have double coverage two evening per week so interstate coverage could be done. Another person would be employed in Neoga, and it could possibly bring another family to the community. Chief Julius said that the cost for another full time officer would be approximately \$10,800 above the amount the city is currently paying out for part-time officers, plus benefits. The consensus of the Council was to have Chief Julius look at how to pay for another officer and bring it back to them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Kepp made a motion to move into executive session at 7:43 p.m. for Personnel – Section 2 (c) (1) employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance. The motion was seconded by Commission Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 8:31 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Hartke, and seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin.

VACATION TIME

Commissioner Groves made a motion to allow employees with remaining vacation days at the end of the calendar year to either roll up to 40 hours to the next calendar year or take the 40 hours as a payout. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES

BILLS

After reviewing the proposed bills, Commissioner Groves made a motion to pay the bills totaling \$27,360.03. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER KEPP

6TH & RT. #45

Commissioner Groves informed the Council that NCIS was discussing the downtown area and looking for ideas on making the area more attractive. Groves said that he requested a quote from Fuller & Wentz to take the concrete out on the corner of 6th & RT. #45. Commissioner Groves asked that the Council start brainstorming to see what they would like to see in that area.

WATER DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE

City Clerk Evans explained the current procedures with turning water on and off on Fridays, and the problem with the public works employees not working five (5) days per week. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to eliminate paying an extra 10% in wages to the acting Superintendent when Mr. Helm is gone, and to reschedule the public works department so that at least one employee is working 10 hours Monday thru Friday unless it is an approved holiday.

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STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER HARTKE

2012 MFT

Commissioner Hartke explained the proposed 2012 MFT road work requested by Superintendent Helm. Commissioner Hartke reminded the Council that the 2011 MFT road work was not completed last year due to the weather, so he is recommending that the schedule continue by combining both years. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to bid all the roads recommended, and if bids come back higher

than expected the Council can delete some streets. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

EMERGENCY PLANNING BOARD MEETING

Commissioner Lindley reminded the Council of the upcoming severe weather, train derailment, and chemical depot damage table top exercise sponsored by the Cumberland County Local Emergency Planning Committee. This exercise will be held at the Neoga Fire Department on Thursday February 9th at 6 p.m. Both Mayor Modglin and Commissioner Lindley will be attending the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Groves to adjourn the meeting at 9:49 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Howard W. Modglin, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date