



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
NEOGA HELD IN  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT  
JANUARY 4, 2010, 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, Varner, Groves, Mayor Modglin, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were Superintendent Hagerstrom.

## **MINUTES**

After reviewing the regular session minutes from December 21, 2009, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioners Kepp, Varner, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIR**

### CEMETERY PILLERS

Mayor Modglin said that the cemetery committee recommended replacing the brick pillars at the main entrance to the cemetery. Modglin said that the pillars would be built by Dave Cameron at around \$3500. After little discussion, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to proceed with replacing the brick pillars at a cost of \$3500. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Varner, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

## **FINANCE**

### IDEAS TO CUT COST IN ALL DEPARTMENTS

Commissioner Kepp mentioned that at the last meeting Commissioner Varner recommended all the Commissioners bring back five (5) recommendations on how to cut expenses in the City. The following ideas were mentioned:

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**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

- Commissioners job shadow in the departments to see if they can find any cost saving ideas.
- Start the day closer to the 7:00 hour instead of 8:00
- Purchase supplies with other communities in bulk to see a savings
- Look for additional grants
- Have supervisors in the field more to eliminate overtime
- Parking the city vehicles instead of driving them home at night (savings of \$2186)
- Don't plow snow until at least 3" of snow has fallen with the exception of the rail road tracks
- Combine the trips to Mattoon or Effingham until you have a list of items
- When flushing hydrants, flush first thing in the morning so that overtime is eliminated.
- Use programmable thermostats in all the buildings
- Generate revenue by patrolling interstate (if possible), cell phone tax, or everyone take a 5% pay cut
- Rotate shifts to eliminate overtime
- If there is overtime the employee has to use it as comp time to take the next day
- Start charging \$1-\$2 for fill dirt
- Charge for after hour service calls (we already do this)
- Eliminate part-time summer help for mowing and either contract the mowing out or purchase a ZTR mower
- Look at wood burning furnace for heating the shop
- Investigate the availability of state and federal programs
- Free golf-carts thru federal stimulus dollars
- DCEO Design grant up to \$100,000 for future projects
- Barrow money from ourselves for local share (equipment depreciation acct)
- City LMI survey suppose to be good for 1 more application

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- Eliminate part-time employees in the police department (savings of \$15,000)
- Have Chief Mattern work every 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend to eliminate overtime. Discontinue three officers on one day.
- To generate more money, patrol the interstate and write more city violations.

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Superintendent Hagerstrom recommended the following:

- Start charging \$1-\$2 per ton for fill dirt
- Charge for after-hours service calls (we pay employees ot)
- Eliminate part-time summer help for mowing & either/ or contract mowing out or purchase a ZTR mower to cut mowing time in half
- Investigate wood furnace for heating shop area
- Investigate the availability of State and Federal programs
- Free golf-carts thru Fed. Stimulus \$\$
- DECO Design Grant up to \$100,000 for future projects
- Borrow \$\$\$ from ourselves for local share (Equipment Depreciation Acct.)
- City LMI survey suppose to be good for 1 more application

## **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:

- Clarified TOC sampling schedule w/ IEPA
- Corrected IEPA records for Di (2 Ethylhexyl) - Phthalate sampling
- Compared Cryptosporidium testing labs & confirmed program

Sewer

- Pulled pump 1 in C-well, tested motor, leads and line feed
- Took pump 1 motor to Rawlings for testing
- Trouble shot the electrical feed to pump 1 in C-well
- Stripped walls in MCC room of WWTP for painting
- Painted walls & workbench, prepared floor for painting
- Designed lift-station covers & picked up lumber
- Checked 3 manholes on Locust, customer found root ball

Streets:

- Spread sand & plowed on Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>
- Put up Christmas lights & ground displays
- Picked up discarded Christmas trees
- Removed '92 GMC radiator, took to repair shop

Misc.

- Recorded year-end meters, odometers readings, hours, etc.
- Moved eye-wash station near parts washer & labeled waste oil per IDOL

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Superintendent Hagerstrom handed out two articles for the Council review. One is to inform the Council about the IDNR open house to present the newly produced digital flood insurance rate maps for Cumberland County. The other one was an article about water rates and how it is in the past and inflation rates.

TRUE LIFT STATION

Superintendent Hagerstrom said that there was nothing new to report.

**STREETS AND ALLEYS**

No report was given

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

No report was given.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Kepp to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Varner, Groves, Lindley, 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