



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
NEOGA HELD IN  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT  
JULY 20, 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, Groves, Varner, Mayor Modglin, and City Treasurer Diana Foor. Others present were Public Works Superintendent Stan Hagerstrom, Bill & Jenny Ramert, Tim Dow, and Walk Insurance representative JoEllen Davis.

## **MINUTES**

After reviewing the regular session minutes from July 6, 2009, Commissioner Varner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioners Lindley, Groves, Varner, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIR**

### CEDAR STREET LIFT STATION

Bill and Jenny Ramert asked the council about the status of the insurance claim from the sewer backup on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ramert stated that they still have not received a phone call from the City's insurance company. He would like to have their phone number, claim number, and adjuster's name so he can contact them. Treasurer Foor advised she received a phone call today from the insurance company asking for Ramert's phone number, so she assumed the insurance company would be contacting them soon.

A lengthy discussion was once again held concerning the problem at the lift station. Several suggestions were discussed to alleviate the problem such as adjusting the float so the alarm would kick on earlier; raising the lift station control panel, and building a shelter over it to keep out water. Stan told the council, the Ramerts, and Tim Dow that Commercial Electric has been contacted, and they will look into raising the control panel. Mayor Modglin instructed Foor to keep the Ramerts updated on the progress.

Mayor Modglin again stressed how important it is for the homeowners to take immediate steps to ensure the problem doesn't happen again. He recommended that they install a check valve and a lift station. He also suggested they install a manual shut off.

Commissioner Groves stated that he wants all problems at the lift stations documented in writing. He will meet with City Clerk Evans to design a checklist that will be followed

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**PAGE -2-**  
**JULY 20, 2009**

weekly. Superintendent Hagerstrom informed the council that employees already check the lift stations every Friday.

BOOSTER CLUB MEMBERSHIP

After a short discussion it was decided to table the vote on becoming a booster club member. The council considered it a donation, and they would like the township to be approached first.

IML CONFERENCE

The annual IML conference being held in Chicago on September 24 – 26 was discussed. The council asked Foor to present a cost analysis at the next meeting. Commissioner Groves also asked Foor to compare the cost of driving verses taking the train. Further discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

**FINANCE**

BILLS

The Council reviewed the warrant bill list. Commissioner Groves made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$57,055.53. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Varner and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

TREASURER REPORT

After no objections were heard concerning the treasurer's report, Mayor Modglin ordered the financial report to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

HEALTH INSURANCE

JoEllen Davis from Walk Insurance attended the meeting to answer questions about health savings accounts (HSA). She informed the council that they had to make a choice between a PPO and a HSA. It could not be split up between both types. Ms. Davis also held an informative meeting for the employees the previous week. Treasurer Foor informed the council that the majority of the employees were receptive to switching to the HSA insurance plan. Another employee meeting will be held soon to discuss the details of how the plan will be set up and administered. Commissioner Varner made a motion to accept the bid from Personal Care for a non-embedded HSA policy with the City paying the entire premium for the employees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Varner and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**PAGE -3-**  
**JULY 20, 2009**

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Groves made a motion to accept the appropriation ordinance with the noted changes. Commissioner Lindley seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Lindley, Groves, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY**

SUPERINTENDENT HAGERSTROM REPORT

Superintendent Hagerstrom updated the Council on what his department has been working on. He reminded the council that the department has been short staffed because an employee has been off due to an accident. The employees are continuing to pick up debris from the storm. The fire department recently held a training session and burned the brush pile. The department has been spraying weeds around town. Telescan is supposed to return before the end of the month to finish the work on West 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The backhoe has been repaired and is back in service.

The fire hydrant on East 5<sup>th</sup> Street is in the process of being replaced. A gas main was ruptured while working on it, but Commissioner Lindley stated that it was not the City's fault because it was marked incorrectly by AmerenCIPS.

Hagerstrom met with a representative from Adams Memorials at the Neoga Memorial Cemetery. They flagged and took pictures of 40 stones that need reset or repaired. An estimate was submitted to the City and will be discussed at the next meeting.

**STREETS AND ALLEYS**

ELM AVENUE UPDATE

Superintendent Hagerstrom handed out drawings of the areas that need repaired on Elm Avenue. These repairs are necessary because a farm implement malfunctioned and tore up sections of the pavement. The farmer's insurance will cover these repairs. Hagerstrom also included an estimate to oil and chip the remainder of Elm Avenue from West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to West 6<sup>th</sup> Street at the expense of the City. This will be discussed in detail at the next meeting.

WEST 10TH STREET

Commissioner Varner commented that there is a deep gouge across the west end of 10<sup>th</sup> Street due to a farm implement. Hagerstrom will check into it and possibly contact the farmer that was responsible.

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
PAGE -4-  
JULY 20, 2009**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Lindley to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Varner, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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Howard W. Modglin, Mayor

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Brenda Evans, City Clerk

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Date