



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT
JUNE 16, 2008, AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Russell and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Varner, Modglin, Mayor Russell, and City Clerk Evans. Absent was Commissioner Kepp. Others present were Superintendent Hagerstrom, Corinthia Croy, Pam Moore, Doug Moore, Bob Thomas, Paul Schabbing, Bob Stretch, Mary Susan Huckstead, Ed Szathowski, Phil Neuivs, Nancy Lawson, Sara Young, Sara Layton, Greg Cook, and Matt Johnson.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from June 2, 2008, Commissioner Varner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioners Lindley, Varner, Modglin and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

LIFE CENTER DONATION

Corinthia Croy explained to the Council that the Cumberland County Life Center has serviced over 133 Neoga residence to date. Croy also explained that she is still taking recipes for the cookbook until the end of June. Croy explained that even with fund raisers the center will be short of funds again this year and asked the Council for a donation to help defray the expenses. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Modglin made a motion to donate \$2500 to the Cumberland County Life Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Modglin, Varner, Lindley and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PAM MOORE, 735 LOCUST

Pam Moore who lives 735 Locust told the council that the area residents are very concerned about the abandon house located at 734 Locust Avenue. According to Moore, the house was abandon over a year ago and since then it has not been maintained, inside or out. Ms. Moore did say that today two dumpster were delivered and approximately six boys were cleaning items out of the house. Commissioner Modglin explained that the entire Council understood their concerns and the lengthy legal process has been started to get something done with the property.

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DOGWOOD DRAINAGE

Paul Schabbing addressed the Council regarding the Dogwood drainage project. Schabbing explained that he was concerned about the drainage of the sump pump at his house. George Warner explained to Schabbing that the ditch will drain towards the East into a detention pond and if the sump pump is installed properly it should drain fine.

FIRE PROTOCOL / GUIDELINES ON ACTIVATING SIRENS

City Clerk Evans explained to the Council that the early warning sirens were not activated during the past storm due to some misunderstanding on when the sirens were to be set off. ESDA Coordinator Bob Thomas told the Council that there was a problem with the protocol on activating the sirens. After a lengthy discussion, Thomas said that he would put together a protocol / guidelines on when the sirens are to be activated. Thomas also wanted the sirens called "early several weather sirens".

FINANCE

BILLS

The Council reviewed the presented bills for the month. With no discussion, Commissioner Modglin made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$100,649.79. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Modglin, Varner, Lindley, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

TREASURER REPORT

The treasurer's report was presented. With no objections heard, Mayor Russell ordered the financial report to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

SUPERINTENDENT HAGERSTROM

Superintendent Hagerstrom handed out a report for the Council to review. In the report, Hagerstrom explained what the department did regarding the storm damages, the 2008 MFT Slurry Seal coat, and water and sewer departments. Hagerstrom also informed the Council that the department planted 43 trees at the cemetery, and 6 trees at the industrial park.

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DOGWOOD DRAINAGE UPDATE

George Warner updated the Council on the progress of the dogwood drainage project. Warner said everything was going fine and recommended that the Council pay the pay request that was presented. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Varner made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$1105.88. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Modglin. Ayes, Commissioners Varner, Lindley, Modglin and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PHASE II SEWER PROJECT

The Council reviewed a pay request from Curry Construction for services rendered on the Phase II sewer construction project. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Varner made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$161,560.75. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Modglin. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Modglin, Varner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

STREETS AND ALLEYS

WEST 6TH STREET

Greg Cook from Foth Infrastructure updated the Council on the resurfacing of West 6th Street. Cook explained in great detail that due to the different government agencies participating in the project, the bids were opened in Springfield. The apparent low bidder on the project is Ne-Co Asphalt out of Mattoon. However, the low bid did come in higher than the engineers estimate by \$44,000. According to Cook, a decision would need to be made on which government body would pay the extra expense, which he and Ben Bland have been discussing. Cook said that a special meeting would need to be held at a later date so that the project could be awarded to the low bidder once it was decided who would pay for the extra \$44,000. It was the consensus of the Council to hold a special meeting at a later date.

CITY PARKING LOT

City Clerk Evans explained to the Council that she has asked Sara Layton from CCDC to assist in the city parking lot project because of the use of RLF dollars. Layton said that she will be holding a meeting with Ken Walk and City Clerk Evans soon to discuss how the project can be implemented. Layton also explained to the Council that the businesses in Neoga are now participating in the Community Cash project and how it works.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

No report was given,

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Modglin to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Lindley, Modglin, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Jay Russell, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date