



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT
MAY 2, 2011, AT 6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Modglin, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Larry Lindley, Tony Kepp, Ronnie Groves, Marty Hartke, Mayor Wayne Modglin, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, CPA Joyce Madigan, Mr. & Mrs. John Robey, Ashley Hartke, Gary Hartke, LuAnn Hartke, and Molly Hartke.

SWEARING IN OF OFFICERS

City Clerk Evans asked Wayne Modglin, who was elected Mayor, and Larry Lindley, Tony Kepp, Ronnie Groves, and Marty Hartke, who were elected commissioners, to stand and raise their right hand as they were sworn in. After the swearing in, Mayor Modglin appointed Larry Lindley as Commissioner of Public Health and Safety, Tony Kepp as Commissioner of Public Property, Marty Hartke as Commissioner of Streets and Alleys, and Ronnie Groves as Commissioner of Finance.

CPA JOYCE MADIGAN, AUDITOR

Joyce Madigan, of Gilbert, Metzger, and Madigan, explained how tax levies work and how they are created. Madigan said that she reviewed the tax levy from The City of Neoga, Neoga Township, and Neoga Road and Bridge. Mrs. Madigan explained to the Council that the Township, if they choose to, could complete the levy differently.

RECESS

So that the Council could attend the Neoga Township meeting, Commissioner Groves made a motion to recess the meeting until after the Neoga Township meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RECONVENED

The meeting was reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

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MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from April 18, 2011, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioners Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEW MEETING DATES

The Council discussed changing the meeting dates to the second and fourth Monday of each month so that people could attend both the City Council meetings and other taxing district meetings. It was the consensus of the Council that taxpayers should take an interest in the meetings of all local taxing bodies. A motion to change the Neoga City Council meetings to the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. was made by Commissioner Groves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY CLERK AND CITY TREASURER

Commissioner Kepp made a motion to reappoint Brenda Evans as the City Clerk / Administrator, and Diana Foor as the City Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

ANNUAL CONTRACT WITH O'DELL

Mayor Modglin told the Council that he spoke with Joe O'Dell of Swengel-O'Dell Funeral Home about the monthly expense the City pays to manage the cemetery. According to Mayor Modglin, Mr. O'Dell explained some of the services that they do for the Neoga Memorial Cemetery. Mayor Modglin said that he would explain it to the council. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to continue the contract with Joe O'Dell to manage the Neoga Memorial Cemetery.

ANNUAL CONTRACT WITH BRADEN LAW OFFICE

The Council discussed the annual contract with Braden Law Office. It was mentioned that some issues require the City to hire a different attorney because of the subject or because of conflict of interest with Mr. Braden's other clientele. The consensus of the Council was to discuss this with Braden.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES

Commissioner Kepp said that he was very honored to be elected again and that he is lucky to serve with this board and the past board. Commissioner Kepp is looking forward to moving ahead with the City including attracting additional businesses in the industrial park. Commissioner Kepp explained that he has been looking for ways to cut expenses and/or increase funds. Some ideas are to sell any unused property, equipment, or supplies. A list of items needs to be collected to see what extra inventory the city has.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER KEPP

CUMBERLAND COUNTY FAIR BOARD

John Robey asked if the City of Neoga would donate to the Cumberland County Fair. Robey explained that funding has declined drastically at the state level, and it will be difficult to make ends meet. Mr. Robey informed the Council that there will be some changes to the fair such as free parking and the possibility of alcohol being served.

NEOGA MEMORIAL CEMETERY

The Council attended the Neoga Township meeting to ask for assistance with the Neoga Memorial Cemetery. However, the Township still did not give any answer to whether or not they would help with funding for the cemetery.

COMMERCIAL WATER RATE

City Clerk Evans gave a spread sheet to the Council showing the new water and sewer rates. The Council agreed to the rates.

BIDS FOR MOWING OF NEOGA MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Commissioner Kepp opened the bids for mowing of the Neoga Memorial Cemetery. The only bid was from M & E Spraying for \$450 per mowing. Commissioner Kepp made a motion to accept the bid from M & E Spraying. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

CLEANING OF BUILDINGS

Commissioner Kepp opened the bids for cleaning the Public Works/Police building and the Municipal building. One bid was from April Hutson for \$150 per week and the seconded bid was from Candy Potter for \$325 per month. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to accept Candy Potter's bid. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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TIF AND BUSINESS DISTRICT.

It was the consensus of the Council to schedule an information meeting for the property owners in the TIF and Business Districts.

WATER LINE REPLACEMENT

The council discussed replacing water lines. Commissioner Kepp will look into the cost of replacing one block.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER HARTKE

Commissioner Groves told the Council that he has been reviewing the overtime from the public works department. According to Groves, if the current rate of overtime continues, the City will be spending approximately \$28,000 this year. Commissioner Groves said that he will continue to monitor it.

2011 MFT PROJECT

Commissioner Groves explained that he has been discussing the roads that need to be oiled and chipped, but due to the decline in MFT funds it may be very difficult to do any maintenance this year.

ROAD LIMITS

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the need to save the city streets as much as possible. Currently, 4th, 5th and Locust Avenues are being used by heavy trucks going to the elevator. Mayor Modglin explained to the Council that he met with personnel from TGM Elevator, and they all agreed to close off 5th street and Locust Avenue. Mayor Modglin explained that the trucks going to the elevator would be able to use RT# 45 to 4th Street and Locust Avenue. The concern that the Council had is the way cars park on the south side of 6th street between Oak Avenue and Maple Avenue. It was the consensus of the Council to talk with the business owners before anything is done.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

CITY WIDE CLEANUP

Commissioner Lindley announced that the City Clerk will be getting bids for the City Wide Cleanup and should have them at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Lindley made a motion to move into executive session at 9:48 p.m. for Personnel – section 2 (c) (1) - Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline, and performance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Kepp, Hartke, Groves, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 10:12 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Kepp, and seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Groves to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Howard W. Modglin, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date