



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
NOVEMBER 9, 2015, AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Kepp. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Edwards, Hartke, Stokes, Mayor Kepp, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, Chief of Police Andy Schabbing, Superintendent Tom Helm, Andy Hanfland, Susan Jaynes, Joyce Madigan, Nick Sibenaller, Steve Vedas, Tony Reynolds, and Billie Chambers.

MINUTES

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to approve the regular and executive session minutes from October 26, 2015, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioners Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP
DIMOND BROTHERS INSURANCE

Tony Reynolds, Representative from Dimond Brothers Insurance informed the Council that his company is placing a bid on the city's general liability, work comp, and auto insurance. Reynolds introduced underwriter Steve Vedas with Bliss-McKnight Insurance. Mr. Vedas explained that Bliss-McKnight will address three of the main concerns for any city: price, coverage, and services. Vedas explained that Bliss-McKnight is rated an excellent or better insurance company. Mr. Vedas also mentioned that the city is currently enrolled in an insurance pool, so if the company had a bad year they could come back to the City asking for additional funds. After little discussion, Mr. Reynolds told the Council that he has given the rates in a sealed envelope to the City Clerk.

ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Susan Jaynes, Representative from IMLRMA introduced herself and thanked the Council for being their client for the past 28 years. Jaynes said that IMLRMA is a self-insured pool; however, they do purchase reinsurance for extra protection so that the extra cost does not fall back on the insured. Ms. Jaynes said that the IMLRMA board is made up of Mayors from around the state of Illinois, so all decisions are made to benefit the communities today and in the future. She also mentioned that IMLRMA has many types of educational tools, including a group of central and southern Illinois police officers that meet regularly regarding safety and liability training.

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SIDEWALK ON EAST 5TH STREET

Mayor Kepp said that Mike May has presented a bill in the amount of \$900 for repairs to a sidewalk along the east side of his house. Mayor Kepp said he would contact Engineer Overmyer about the bill and report back.

REQUESTED EXTENDED HOURS AT FIRE HOUSE

City Clerk Evans said that she received a written request to extend their bar hours by one hour on November 25th & 26th, December 24th & 31st, 2015, and February 7, 2016. According to the letter, his establishment has extra clientele due to the holiday and super bowl. Mr. Miller said these hours will not be advertised as staying open late but it would give him an option should he need it. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to grant the extended hour as per the request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

CCDC REPRESENTATIVES

Mayor Kepp introduced CCDC President Chambers. Chambers informed the Council that each community that is a member of CCDC has the opportunity to appoint two people to the board. After a short discussion, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to appoint Tony Kepp and Brenda Evans as the two representatives for the 2016 board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER HARTKE

GILBERT, METZGER, & MADIGAN

City Auditor Joyce Madigan gave a copy of the 2014-2015 audit to the council members. Ms. Madigan explained the audit in detail, and without any questions the audit was filed in the city clerk's office.

TREASURER'S REPORT

After viewing the treasurer's report, Mayor Kepp ordered the financial reports to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER STOKES

BIDS FOR BRUSH CLEANUP

Commissioner Stokes opened bids for the cleaning of brush along three areas in the downtown area. After opening the bids, the council discussed the need to have the areas cleaned up. Commissioner Hartke said that he agrees it would look great for the downtown area; however, with the state's financial situation right now, this is not the

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time for the city to spend any extra money. Commissioner Edwards agreed with Hartke. Mayor Kepp said that he feels it would be a benefit to the area. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to wait until the first of next year to see where finances were to make a decision.

STREETS & ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

Commissioner Edwards said that he, along with some creative help from his wife, handed out candy for trick or treat night at the municipal building. Edwards said they had a great time and would do it again.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

No report was given.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Police chief Schabbing told the council that the Community Christmas Tree activities will be December 5th starting at 5 p.m. and lighting the tree at 6 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to move into executive session – Section 2 (c) (1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline, and performance at 8:13 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, Lindley, Hartke, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 9:55 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Hartke. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioners Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date