



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
NEOGA HELD IN  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2011, 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, Hartke, Groves, Mayor Modglin, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor.

## **MINUTES**

After reviewing the regular and executives session minutes from September 12, 2011, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioners Kepp, Hartke, Groves, and Mayor Modglin. Commissioner Lindley abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

### THANK YOU NOTE FROM GAIL MOORE

Mayor Modglin read a thank you card from Gail Moore regarding the ceremony for the POW-MIA on Friday September 16<sup>th</sup>.

### NEOGA MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Mayor Modglin told the Council that the City of Neoga still has not received an answer from the Neoga Township regarding the offer that they sent a few months ago. Mayor Modglin asked the other council members if they wanted to update the public or just let it go. After a lengthy discussion it was the consensus of the Council to hold an informational meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to update the public and ask for public input on the future of the Neoga Memorial Cemetery.

## **FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES**

### BILLS

After reviewing the proposed bills, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to pay the bills totaling \$38,831.10. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

## **PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER KEPP**

### TERMINATION OF TENANT FARMER

City Clerk Evans explained to the Council that the time is coming to terminate the tenant farmer for this year. Evans said that when the bidding was done back in the spring, it was understood that it would be for only one year, and that the next contract could be longer. However, City Attorney Braden will need time to complete the paperwork and get it served. With little discussion, Commissioner Kepp made a motion to proceed with the termination. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### WATER TOWER

A brief discussion was held regarding the design and color of the water tower. The council decided to postpone the decision until the next meeting.

## **STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER HARTKE**

### IKE ENGINEER AGREEMENT

After reviewing the IKE Engineer Agreement again, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to accept the agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### CLOSING CHESTNUT AVENUE FROM 6<sup>TH</sup> TO 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to close Chestnut Avenue between 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Street during the Neoga Boosters Haunted House. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Kepp, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY**

### 734 LOCUST AVENUE

Commissioner Lindley informed the Council that the property located at 734 Locust has been completely demolished, and the lot has been grass seeded and is starting to grow.

### 567 CHESTNUT AVENUE

Commissioner Lindley explained that the property located at 567 Chestnut is still under demolition; however, Building Inspector Gary Kastl has been in contact with the owner, and the property should be cleaned up by the end of the week.

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796 OAK AVENUE

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the number of complaints that the city and the commissioners are receiving regarding the items located at 796 Oak Avenue. It was the consensus of the Council to speak to other communities on how they handle the problem.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Kepp made a motion to move into executive session for personnel – Section 2 (c) (1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves at 7:59 p.m. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Groves, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was reconvened at 8:29 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Kepp, and seconded by Commissioner Groves. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin.

HIRING OF POLICE CHIEF

Commissioner Kepp made a motion to hire Joshua Douthit for the police chief position at a salary of \$42,000 per year. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Kepp to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, Groves, 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