

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF
THE CITY COUNCIL OF NEOGA
HELD IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
CITY OF NEOGA MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
MARCH 15, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Wayne Modglin. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were Commissioners Groves, Lindley, Hartke, Mayor Modglin, and City Treasurer Foor. Others present were Tom Overmyer from Phoenix Consulting Engineers, Tim Haarman from Cumberland Internet, Mike Schabbing from Global Tech Services, Bill Albin - Neoga Fire Chief, Alan Baker – Neoga EMS Coordinator, Colby McCormick from Central Tank Coatings, Jon Julius – Neoga Police Chief, Andy Schabbing – Neoga Police Department, and Tom Helm – City of Neoga Public Works Superintendent.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

Mayor Modglin opened the meeting by thanking everyone for taking the time to attend. He explained this special meeting was to decide on how to proceed with the water tower painting project without disabling radio transmissions for fire and ambulance and internet service. If the antennas were removed it would disrupt portable radio service, but there would still be reception on mobiles. Modglin gave a brief background of the project and informed the audience that the project was bid with the antennas staying on the tower. The contractor later offered the City a discount of \$4,200 to remove the antennas so they would not have to work around them. The council discussed removing the antennas and placing them on a 40 foot pole, but Mike Schabbing from Global Tech informed everyone that would not be acceptable because the pole would have to be a lot taller. EMS Coordinator Baker asked if the antennas could be removed when the antenna area of the tank was being painted and then reinstalled the next day. Overmyer stated that it would take several days for all the preparation and painting, so that would not be suitable.

Tim Haarman from Cumberland Internet asked what kind of material would be used to cover the tank. Contractor McCormick said it was a type of parachute material, and some antenna services do work through that material, but it is not guaranteed. Mr. Haarman thought his best solution would be to find an alternative place to temporarily put the antennas for wireless internet.

Mr. Haarman also asked if he would be able to run electric cords to the top of the tower to power his equipment once the project is completed. Overmyer agreed to this as long as the cords meet National Electric Code and are placed in conduit. It was agreed that the internet wiring and the emergency 911 wiring should be placed in separate conduit.

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Commissioner Hartke suggested installing additional antenna brackets on top of the tower for future use. He thought it would be an excellent time to add them. Overmyer stated that it is common to receive a monthly fee from businesses that want to rent the tower for antenna placement. Schabbing said that Global tech has specific antenna brackets for this purpose, and the contractor could weld them if the Council chose to do it.

After further discussion, the council and everyone attending established it would be best to leave the antennas up and forgo the \$4,200 discount offered for removing them. It was agreed that all parties would work together to make the project go smoothly. A paper with the phone numbers of those in attendance was distributed. Mayor Modglin and Engineer Overmyer stressed the importance of having all emergency services departments create a contingency plan to have in place for unforeseen problems.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Modglin once again thanked everyone for attending. After all questions and concerns were addressed, a motion was made by Commissioner Groves to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. and seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Groves, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Howard W. Modglin, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date