



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT
JANUARY 5, 2009, AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 p.m. by Mayor Russell and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Kepp, Varner, Modglin, Mayor Russell, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were Public Works Superintendent Stan Hagerstrom.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from December 15, Commissioner Varner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Modglin. Ayes, Commissioners Varner, Modglin, Lindley, and Mayor Russell. Commissioner Kepp abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIR

APPOINTMENT OF CCDC REPRESENTATIVES

City Clerk Evans said that she is waiting on confirmation from Bill Steichmann and Kevin Jansen that they will continue to represent the City of Neoga.

MEDIACOM FRANCHISE

The Council reviewed a letter from City Attorney Glenn Braden. Braden recommended that the City of Neoga give him authorization to contact Stewart Diamonds office to get legal advice in regards to a letter that was received from MediaCom. The letter asked the City of Neoga to pass a name change resolution which would give MediaCom a franchise agreement as well. Commissioner Modglin told the Council that in the past MediaCom wanted a new franchise agreement and the Council felt that MediaCom should extend their service area to the entire city limits which they have not done. Modglin also felt that a fifteen (15) year franchise agreement was too long. After a brief discussion, the consensus of the Council was to have Braden contact Diamond's office and get advice.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

City Clerk Evans explained to the Council that the City received a letter from the Department of Labor requesting information regarding the Phase II sewer construction project. Evans explained that Foth Infrastructure had sent a letter for Mayor Russell to sign with the consent from the Council. Commissioner Modglin made a motion authorizing the Mayor to sign the letter addressed to the Department of Labor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Modglin, Lindley, Kepp, Varner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RESIGNATION OF ZONING BOARD MEMBER

The Council accepted a letter from Zoning Board Chairman Bill Ehrhart stating that he is resigning from the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ehrhart said that he has served on the board for a number of years, and that it was time for someone else to serve. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Varner made a motion to accept the letter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kepp. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Modglin, Lindley, Kepp and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

FINANCE

Commissioner Modglin said that he didn't have anything to report, but that he wanted to know where the Cemetery committee stands. City Clerk Evans said that the last time she talked with the Committee, they were still looking for a picture of the iron work at the entrance of the cemetery. Modglin said that he feels that they need to move ahead on the committee.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

SUPERINTENDENT HAGERSTROM REPORT

Superintendent Hagerstrom reviewed his report with the Council and explained that the public works department assisted with the extra traffic due to a wreck on the Interstate in Effingham. The department also cut tree limbs at 5th and Locust, and fixed some electrical problems at the sewer plant.

SEWER RATE RESOLUTIONS

City Clerk Evans said that she is still waiting on City Attorney Braden to give the new sewer rate resolution to the Council. Superintendent Hagerstrom gave the Council a data sheet that he created showing where the City of Neoga ranks compared to approximately 330 other communities.

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STREETS AND ALLEYS

2009 MFT

Commissioner Kepp told the Council that he spoke with Greg Cook about the upcoming MFT season. Kepp said that he is hoping by the next meeting to have a plan put together.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

No report was given.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Kepp to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Modglin. Ayes, Commissioner Kepp, Varner, Modglin, Lindley, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Jay Russell, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date