



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
DECEMBER 14, 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, Stokes, Mayor Kepp, and City Clerk Evans. Commissioner Hartke arrived at 7:23 p.m. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, Chief of Police Andy Schabbing, Superintendent Tom Helm, and Engineer Lee Beckman.

MINUTES

Commissioner Lindley made a motion to approve the regular session minutes from November 23, 2015, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioners Lindley, Edwards, Stokes, and Mayor Kepp. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP

CAMP NEW HOPE DONATION

Mayor Kepp told the council that Camp New Hope has requested a donation this year, and explained that normally all requests for a donation must have been presented to the Neoga Township first. Kepp said at this time he was not aware of any donation from the Township, but they usually give during their April meeting. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to postpone any donation until after April, 2016. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER HARTKE

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.

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PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER STOKES
WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Lee Beckman from Milano & Grunloh Engineers updated the Council on the wastewater treatment plant. Beckman explained to the Council members that currently the city is not compliant with the ammonia levels at the treatment plant. Although the levels are tested downstream the EPA will not allow us to move the sampling downstream. Mr. Beckman stated that we have a few options that would bring us into compliance. One would be to construct a ditch which would give the discharge a longer aeration time which should bring us within our limits. This would be at a cost of approximately \$50-75,000. The other option would be to build a rock filter with aeration. This would have a price tag of approximately \$250,000. Either way the city has three years to complete the upgrade, but we must have a written plan submitted to the EPA by March. After a lengthy discussion it was the consensus of the Council to have Beckman bring back prices for both plans after the first of the year.

STREETS & ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS
PAY REQUEST FROM MILANO & GRUNLOH

Commissioner Edwards presented a pay request from Milano & Grunloh for services at Kepp Avenue. After little discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$4,221.99. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

KEPP AVENUE

Engineer Lee Beckman told the Council that the guardrail for Kepp Avenue was approved by IDOT in the amount of \$11,005. The city's portion would be \$5,502.50. After very little discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the change order to include the guardrail in the amount of \$11,005. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Beckman also discussed the drainage at Kepp Avenue. According to Beckman, IDOT has agreed to pay 100% of the expense on the state right of way and 50% south of Rt. #45. Beckman said that he believes the cost to the city would be approximately \$30,000. After a lengthy discussion, the council decided to proceed with the drainage at Kepp Avenue.

Lee Beckman also stated that the City should hear by the end of the year about the CDAP water grant. He also mentioned that the construction for the Safe Route to School grant should start in late 2016.

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HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

Commissioner Lindley said he didn't really have anything to report, but he was very pleased with the holes that were patched by the public works department. He is still unhappy about the 7th Street railroad crossing. City Clerk Evans said that she has called them but will call again.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Police Chief Schabbing told the Council that Officer Riley Britton has taken a full time position with the Newton Police Department and will not be working for Neoga after this month.

City Treasurer Foor said that First Neighbor Bank will be matching up to \$1,000 for the Veterans' Memorial Fund until the end of December.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to move into executive session for Personnel Section 2 (c) (1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline, and performance at 7:51 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 8:50 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.

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to give all full time employees a pay increase of 3% to begin at the first full week of January 2016. Hartke also said that all full time employees will receive a bonus of \$50 in Neoga bucks, and all part time employees and Neoga Zoning Board will receive \$25 in Neoga bucks. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioners Lindley, Stokes, Hartke, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date