



**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
FEBRUARY 29, 2016, AT 6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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. Also present was Lee Beckman from Milano and Grunloh Engineers. City Attorney Tracy Willenborg arrived at 6:51.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER STOKES

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Lee Beckman from Milano and Grunloh, updated the Council on the wastewater treatment plant. Beckman gave the council an extremely detailed plan for his recommendation to the Wastewater treatment plant so the city would become compliant with IEPA. Beckman said that if the city decided to change the plant to a lagoon system instead of a mechanical plant, there would be less operational and maintenance cost down the road. Commissioner Edwards asked if it would address any new requirements that IEPA may require in the next 15-20 years. Beckman said that currently there is talk only about phosphorous removal but that may take 10-15 years before it hits the smaller communities, but yes a lagoon system can be used to remove phosphorus material if needed. At this time, Beckman handed out numerous documents that proved that lagoons can remove phosphorus in other states. Beckman explained that some items at the plant will no longer be in operation and can be sold as scrap once the recycle prices increased. Council member told Mr. Beckman thank you for coming to the meeting and clearing up some concerns that the plan.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to move into executive session for personnel section 2 (c) (1) – employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance at 6:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Hartke, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 8:28 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.

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PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER STOKES

City Clerk Evans told the Council that the wastewater treatment plant decisions need to be made. Evans said that the IEPA report that is required by the end of March will take time put together and it is not fair to the engineers to put that kind of pressure on them by waiting. Evans presented a facility plan agreement from both Farnsworth Engineers and Milano & Grunloh Engineers. Evans explained that the plan can be done from either firm, but does not mean they have to have that firm do the engineering for the plant upgrade. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Stokes said that she felt like Beckman explained his plan a lot better this time, but still felt like Farnsworth understood the plant better and made a motion to have the mayor sign the Farnsworth agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, Hartke, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 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