



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
JULY 11, 2016, AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Edwards, Stokes, Mayor Pro-tem Hartke, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Police Chief Andy Schabbing, Superintendent Tom Helm, Engineer Lee Beckman, Neoga News Reporter Billie Chambers, and Brad Eaton.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the special and regular session minutes from June 27, 2016 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioners Edwards, Stokes, Lindley and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP**

No report was given.

**FINANCE, COMMISSIONER HARTKE**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

City Treasurer Diana Foor told the Council that on page 2 of the report they would notice that the sales tax dollars have increased tremendously due to a large check from the Illinois Department of Revenue. At this time, the state says that the money belongs to the City of Neoga. Foor said that we will review the reports from IDOR to determine where it came from and where it should go. After reviewing the remaining treasurer's report, Mayor Pro-tem Hartke ordered the financial reports to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER STOKES**

**WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Engineer Beckman presented an agreement between the City of Neoga and Engineer for Professional Services. Beckman explained the steps to be taken in the next few weeks. This includes applying for grant money through Rural Development at a rate of 1.625% for 40 years with a potential for grant money and the ability to refinance the balance of the current loan. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept the agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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6<sup>TH</sup> STREET DISTRIBUTION GRANT

Engineer Beckman updated the Council on again applying for a grant to replace the water lines along east 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Beckman explained that the city is currently receiving letters from the residents along with pictures of their quality of water. Beckman said that he is very hopeful of the grant being funded this year.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL GRANT (SRTS)

Engineer Beckman told the Council that the ITEP grant was not funded which has caused a problem with the sidewalks in this grant. According to Beckman, additional funds will be needed to build a pedestrian bridge across the ditch on Park Avenue and 10<sup>th</sup> Street. This is going to change the number of blocks of sidewalks that can be done. In the first grant the sidewalks would have started out by Ash Avenue to 10<sup>th</sup> Street and east to Walnut Avenue. The grant would also add sidewalks down Park Avenue to 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Due to the dollar amount used for the bridges the grant will only complete the sidewalks along Park Avenue to 10<sup>th</sup> Street and east along 10<sup>th</sup> Street to Cedar Avenue.

**STREETS & ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS**

HANDICAP SIDEWALKS

The Council reviewed the quotes from the following for handicap sidewalks:

J. B. Esker.....	\$29,880.00
Hoelscher Concrete.....	\$25,200.00
Tom Buescher.....	\$16,500.00

After reviewing all the bids again, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to proceed with the handicap sidewalks by Tom Buescher Concrete. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PURCHASE OF FUEL

Superintendent Helm told the Council that he received three written bids for purchasing fuel at the shop. Again, Helm told the Council that it would save time and money for his department. Commissioner Edwards opened the bids which were as follows:

FS.....	\$1.817 for unleaded
FS.....	\$1.789 for diesel
EK.....	\$1.711 for unleaded
EK.....	\$1.731 for diesel
Equity.....	\$2.162 for unleaded
Equity.....	\$1.946 for diesel

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Stokes made a motion to continue purchasing fuel at the least expensive local business. The motion was seconded by Commissioner

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Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY**

Commissioner Lindley said that he still needs to meet with the fire district and the public works department to train on confined spaces.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Treasurer Foor told the Council that the Veterans' Memorial should break ground next week and plans are under way for a dedication.

Chief Schabbing informed the Council that the new breathalyzer was in, and he will be on vacation for the next week to ride across Illinois for police officers killed in the line of duty.

Brad Eaton addressed the Council and requested that the Neoga News reporter leave the room. Mayor Pro-tem Hartke said that this was an open meeting and anyone may stay. Mr. Eaton said that he received a phone call from a lady in Neoga who said she was hungry and needed food. Eaton said that the city pays \$75 every few weeks to have this persons yard mowed. He wanted to know why the city couldn't buy food or turn her water on with that money and allow someone else to volunteer to mow her yard. Eaton asked the Council how we could sit back and allow people in Neoga to starve. City Clerk Evans said that when the city pays to have the yard mowed a bill will be sent to the property owner, and if it is not paid a lien will be placed on the property, and in time the city will get their money back. Evans also told Eaton that if someone needs assistance the Neoga Township has a fund that will assist individuals who need help paying for utilities, medicine, or other necessities. They must apply for that help at the township and not with the city. As far as food goes, Evans said that anyone who needs food can contact the food pantry and they can help with food, as well as the area churches. Eaton said that he received approximately 3 full bags of food from Neoga IGA, but this person only accepted bread, peanut butter, and cookies. The remaining food was refused. City Treasurer Foor reassured Eaton that the City employees and Council would gladly take money out of their own packets to help this person, but they don't want the help. Eaton wanted to know what could be done to get this person water. Evans said if Eaton could find someone to put the bill in their name and take the responsibility to pay the bill, she would contribute \$20 per month towards the bill. The Neoga News reporter said that she would pay \$100 towards the bill as well. Eaton said he will continue to work with this individual to get them help.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to move into executive session for Sale or Lease of Real Estate - Section 2 (c) (6) – Limited to actual setting the price for sale or lease of public property at 8:15 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stokes. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was reconvened at 8:31 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Edwards. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Edwards, Stokes, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Stokes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:33p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioners Stokes, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Pro-tem Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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Brenda Evans, City Clerk

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Date