

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
JUNE 26, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Tony Kepp. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Commissioners Hartke and Stokes were absent. Others present were City Clerk Evans, Superintendent Tom Helm, Engineer Lee Beckman, and Neoga News Editor Billie Chambers.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Lindley made a motion to approve the minutes from June 12, 2017 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried 3-0.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP**

NEOGA HISTORY ADDITION

Peggy Stuntz, spokesperson for the Neoga History committee, updated the Council on the progress to expand the municipal building to include an area for the history of churches, businesses, families, and schools in Neoga and the surrounding area. Stuntz explained that the architect has drawn up plans to gain the needed space for everyone as she received input from City Clerk Evans and the committee. The current cost estimates were given to the council to review, and Stuntz explained that the cost was divided between the city and the committee by using a square footage formula. City Clerk Evans told the Council that she felt the addition was needed in the back room area. Evans also stated the City should plan for additional storage space due to the fact that state statutes limit the city's ability to dispose of some records, and if the building is going to be expanded, the city should keep that in mind. Evans also said that some other plans are in the process of being drawn up, and we should have additional information at future meetings.

SARAH BUSH LINCOLN HEALTH SYSTEMS DONATION

City Clerk Evans stated that the construction on the new Sarah Bush Lincoln Health System Neoga Clinic will begin in the coming days. The city has received a request for a donation to the clinic from Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Foundation. Evans reminded the Council that currently the City has donated by waiving over \$800 in building permits, \$400 in water tap fees, and \$100 in wastewater tap fees. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to not donate to Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Foundation at this time however, review the subject later if Sarah Bush doesn't hit there \$70,000 goal. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

## **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**PAGE -2-**

**JUNE 26, 2017**

### DEMOLITION OF 756 AND 796 OAK AVENUE

City Clerk Evans said that she reviewed the bids from the last meeting and clarified that the bid from Tim Strohl did include the asbestos inspection, and if there were any tanks underground they would be removed at an additional expense. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to award the bid to Tim Strohl in the amount of \$6,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

## **FINANCE, COMMISSIONER HARTKE**

### MONTHLY BILLS

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$68,874.06. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

## **PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER STOKES**

### PURCHASE OF AUTO GUN AND EXTENSION FOR WATER DEPARTMENT

City Clerk Evans told the council that the water department has two auto read guns that are used to read meters; however, one is not holding a charge. Evans asked the Council to purchase one new gun and extension at a cost of \$1,994.14. Evans said once it is in, they could send the old gun in to see if it can be repaired at a cost of \$562.32.

Commissioner Edwards said since there are three guys in the department who can read the meters it would be a good idea to always have three guns available, so he made a motion to purchase a new gun and extension in the amount of \$1,994.14. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

### PURCHASE OF COOLING FAN FOR WASTEATER TREATMENT PLANT

Superintendent Helm told the Council that one of the pumps at the waste water treatment plant had a cooling fan break down, and the heat from the pump was so high that the wiring melted. Helm said that D & M Electrical replaced the wiring and recommended that the fan be replaced at a cost of \$420.00. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to replace the fan at a cost of \$420. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

### WATER LICENSE TEST CLASS D

Superintendent Helm told the Council that he has information from IEPA that if the City decides to purchase finished water from EJ Water, the employees will still need at least a class D license for distribution. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a

## **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**PAGE -3-**

**JUNE 26, 2017**

motion to not reimburse employees for any water license at this time. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

### STATE GRANT (\$100,000)

Engineer Beckman told the Council that he has reviewed the State Grant of \$100,000 for water improvements. According to Beckman, \$29,650 has been disbursed to the city; however, not all of it has been spent. Beckman said that the city should purchase the piping to start the waterline replacements at a cost of approximately \$20,000. It was the consensus of the council to purchase the material as soon as possible.

## **STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS**

### SKEETER SLAYERS

Tom Helm, owner of Skeeter Slayers, addressed the Council about spraying for mosquitos and larviciding at a monthly rate of \$800. Helm said that he would use the city's currently supply of mosquito spray and larvicide. Mr. Helm predicted that this would save the city approximately \$228 per month or over \$1500 per year. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to wait until the next meeting to discuss it when all Commissioners were present.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY**

### CONFINED SPACE TRAINING

Commissioner Lindley stated that the City should host the confined space training now that Superintendent Helm has returned to work. The Council agreed and asked Helm to set the date and contact area communities, fire departments and public works departments to attend.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were given.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion at 8:04 pm to move into executive session for Personnel - Section 2 (c) (1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**PAGE -4-**

**JUNE 26, 2017**

**RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was reconvened at 9:20 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Edwards. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Edwards, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried 3-0.

---

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

---

Date