



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
NOVEMBER 23, 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, Stokes, Hartke, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp, Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, Chief of Police Andy Schabbing, Superintendent Tom Helm, CASA representatives Kristen Bertrand and Shayla Keach, and Tony Reynolds from Dimond Brothers Insurance.

MINUTES

Commissioner Lindley made a motion to approve the regular session minutes from November 9, 2015, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioners Hartke, Edwards, Lindley, Stokes, and Mayor Kepp. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP
CASA OF EAST CENTRAL ILLINOIS

CASA Representative Kristen Bertrand addressed the Council and explained that the program is a voice in court for abused or neglected children. She said they are just now reaching out to Cumberland County, and they are looking for advocates and board members to represent the county. She introduced Shayla Keach who is the only advocate currently in Cumberland County. Shayla briefly explained why she became an advocate and how exciting it is to be able to help children. Bertrand invited the council to a meet & greet at Cameo Vineyards Winery in Greenup on December 3rd from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER HARTKE
BILLS

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$102,382.58. Foor noted that a large portion of this amount was the payment of the MFT roadwork. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioners Hartke, Edwards, Lindley, Stokes, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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YEARLY INSURANCE QUOTES

The council members were presented with a spreadsheet that outlined quotes for insurance coverage. The two companies that submitted quotes were IMLRMA at \$58,250 and Dimond Brothers with a base quote of \$44,156. Dimond Brothers also offered options of adding an umbrella policy for one million, two million, or three million dollars for an additional cost. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to accept the bid for the Selective Company from Dimond Brothers with a two million dollar umbrella for a total policy cost of \$47,489. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioners Hartke, Edwards, Lindley, Stokes, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0. Reynolds noted that their company offers training programs, and he assured the council that his company will be very easy to work with should we need to file a claim.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER STOKES

No report was given.

STREETS & ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

CHANGE REQUEST – KEPP AVENUE

Commissioner Edwards questioned the original estimate vs the current invoice amount of the Kepp Avenue road project. Foor explained that she had spoken with Lee Beckman from Milano & Grunloh earlier in the day, and they reviewed the estimate. The bids came in under what was anticipated, and the City's share will be approximately \$125,000. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept the change request submitted by IDOT. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley, Stokes, Hartke, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PAY ESTIMATE – KEPP AVENUE

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept the pay estimate for Kepp Avenue in the amount of \$206,329.15.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Lindley, Stokes, Hartke, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Police Chief Andy Schabbing voiced his concern about not having a curb or guard rail at the end of this new road. He explained it would be very easy for someone to drive into the pond. Mayor Kepp will contact Lee at Milano & Grunloh and Tom at IDOT and see what can be done.

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HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

Commissioner Lindley mentioned that there is a pothole on East 5th Street that he would like to see filled. Superintendent Helm said he would get it taken care of tomorrow.

Lindley also mentioned that the 7th Street railroad crossing is very rough, and the school buses bounce when they go over it. The council suggested that City clerk Evans contact the railroad to see what can be done to fix it.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chief Schabbing gave a report of NPP activities. The Community Christmas tree has been put up, and there will be a lighting ceremony on December 5th. The tree was donated by the Helm family. The council thanked them for their generosity.

Treasurer Foor noted that the Christmas Business Walk and Vendor Fair will be held on December 5th. She passed out flyers to the council and invited them all to attend and to shop local this year.

Superintendent Helm reported that:

The lime auger has been installed

The main master meter at the lake will be installed soon

NRG (Reliant) has contacted him about water. Tom will invite them to a future council meeting.

The Christmas lights are up

Helm also handed out and explained the maintenance project sheet

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 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