



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
OCTOBER 26, 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, Hartke, Mayor Kepp, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, Chief of Police Andy Schabbing, Mark Bingham from B & M Engineering, and Stan Polanski from Effingham Daily News.

MINUTES

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to approve the regular and executive session minutes from October 13, 2015, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioners Hartke, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0. Commissioner Lindley abstained.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP

RESOLUTION #08-10-15 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CARMEN STOKES TO
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEOGA,
ILLINOIS

Due to the fact that the council wanted to discuss who would be appointed to the council, they tabled this until later in the meeting.

CLEANING OF RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY

Mayor Kepp told the Council that he has discussed with Superintendent Helm about cleaning the railroad right of way. However, after some research, the railroad requires a 10 million dollar liability policy. Mayor Kepp said that the city will continue to investigate the project.

Mayor Kepp told the Council that the Neoga Jr. High has recently elected a student council for the 6th, 7th, and 8th, grade classes as well as started a Jr-High newspaper. Both groups will be looking for activities to do within the community.

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FINANCE, COMMISSIONER HARTKE

BILLS

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$30,680.69. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioners Hartke, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER

SLUDGE APPLICATION

City Clerk Evans explained that the Sludge Permit has expired, and Superintendent Helm was not able to complete the application. After reviewing the proposed agreement, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to accept an agreement with Milano and Grunloh to complete the sludge permit application. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

STREETS & ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

KEPP AVENUE DRAINAGE

Commissioner Edwards told the Council that the Kepp Avenue construction has begun. There is a problem with drainage from the pond to the north. Edwards said that the fall from the pond area to the box culvert under RT. #45 is approximately 6" which will not drain. City Clerk said that she has been working with the engineers and Illinois Department of Transportation on obtaining additional funding to eliminate the drainage problem. After extensive research, it was discovered that IDOT has an easement to assist in drainage of the pond to the north. However, the Effingham IDOT office was not aware of it. After multiple meetings and emails, Evans said that IDOT has agreed to pay 100% of the work on their right of way and only 50% on the easement areas. Evans said that she is continuing to talk with legislators and IDOT representatives to resolve the issue for additional funding. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to continue working towards additional funding and hold off on the drainage solution.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

No report was given.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief Schabbing told the Council that the NPP Beatification group would like to have a community Christmas tree downtown. The group is looking for local sponsors to light the area between 6th and 7th Street, as well as other activities. Schabbing said that he will have additional information soon.

Treasurer Diana Foor added that the NPP group will be painting utility poles on 7th Street from Rt. #45 to the High School (weather permitting) on Sunday, November 1, 2015 if anyone would like to help.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to move into executive session – Section 2 (c) (3) – Selection, appointment, performance, discipline or removal of a public official at 7:17 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 7:48 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Hartke. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Hartke, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp.

**RESOLUTION #08-10-15 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING CARMEN STOKES TO
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ILLINOIS**

After reviewing the presented ordinance, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to appoint Carmen Stokes to the Council and accept the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Hartke, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, Commissioner Lindley. Motion carried. 3-1.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioners Edwards, Hartke, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date