



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
DECEMBER 13, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hartke. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were Commissioners Helm, Hakman, Edwards, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, Chief of Police Andy Schabbing, Superintendent Shawn Durbin, and Neoga News Editor Billie Chambers.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from November 22, 2021, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Commissioner Helm abstained. Motion carried. 4-0.

After reviewing the public hearing meetings from November 22, 2021, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Commissioner Helm abstained. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HARTKE

NEOGA SCHOOL DISTRICT TIF APPLICATION

Mayor Hartke asked the Council to give guidance to City Clerk Evans regarding a TIF application. It was the consensus of the Council to have the school district proceed with the application.

PURCHASE OF PANASONIC TOUGHBOOK

Chief Schabbing presented to the Council the estimate for a new Panasonic Toughbook computer for the police department. Schabbing said that currently the two patrolmen must share the computer and if one gets called out on an emergency they have to stop by the station to pick up the computer. Chief Schabbing also told the Council that the computer can be paid for with DUI funds. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Groves made a motion to purchase the computer in the amount of \$3015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Helm, Hakman, Edwards, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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DONATION TO CAMP NEW HOPE

Mayor Hartke told the Council that Camp New Hope has requested a donation. Hartke said that in the past six (6) years, the city has given \$500. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to donate \$500 to Camp New Hope for 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RESOLUTION #08-12-21 A Resolution to Enter into Contractual Agreement for Technical Assistance Agreement with Coles County Regional Planning

After reviewing the resolution, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

ORDINANCE #1027-12-21 An Ordinance Authorizing Execution of Lease Agreement (G & M Restoration, LLC)

After noticing a typographic mistake, it was decided to table until the next meeting.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES

TREASURER'S REPORT

After reviewing the treasurer's report, Mayor Hartke ordered that the treasurer's report be filed in the City Clerk's records.

ORDINANCE #1026-12-21 An Ordinance Levying the Taxes for the Corporate Purposes of the City of Neoga, Cumberland County, Illinois, for the Fiscal Year Commencing May 1, 2021, and Ending April 30, 2022

Commissioner Groves explained the ordinance is the same as it was a couple weeks ago when it was reviewed. No one had questions, so Commissioner Groves made a motion to pass the ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Helm, Hakman, Edwards, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RESOLUTION #07-12-21 A Resolution Concerning Ordinance #751-03-05 an Ordinance Authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Waterworks and Sewerage Bonds (Alternate B. Revenue Source) Series 2005 of the City of Neoga, Cumberland County, Illinois, Directing the Application of Funds to the Payment of Debt and Directing the Abatement of a Levy and Extension of Taxes for the Year 2021 Previously Established to Pay Such Bonds (Series 2005)

After reviewing the resolution, Commissioner Groves made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Helm, Hakman, Edwards, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER HAKMAN

PAY ESTIMATE #1C FOR FOLLOWELL

After reviewing the pay estimate, the Council decided to table this until Engineer Beckman could attend the meeting.

CHANGE ORDER #5 FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Commissioner Hakman explained the change order was to extend the contract with Followell until the end of January. The Council did not have a good feeling about extending the agreement AGAIN, but decided that they would give Mayor Hartke permission to sign the change order ONLY after the contractor fixes the alleys and streets within two (2) weeks.

LANDSCAPE DEBRIS ON CITY PROPERTY

Superintendent of Public Works Shawn Durbin informed the Council that they have received another complaint about burning at the shop. Durbin explained that when the pile gets high and they have time, they remove the debris to the property by the lake; however, people sometimes start the brush on fire. Mayor Hartke mentioned that most of the citizens use the service, and it would not be a good idea to close it off. Commissioner Hakman asked if the guys could make two (2) piles for people to drop debris off at. Durbin said that he would see what could be done.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

Commissioner Edwards told the Council that he has received complaints about the extra rock on the streets that were oiled and chipped this year. Edwards thinks that because it was later in the year when the work was done, there wasn't enough summer heat left for the rock to get into the oil. Superintendent Durbin said that they are looking into a way of gathering up the extra rock to stockpile it.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER HELM

Commissioner Helm told the Council that he assisted with the fire flow testing on the hydrants for the past few weeks. Helm said that the Public Works department and the Fire department assisted with the process, and they have now completed the entire west side of Rt. #45.

Mayor Hartke reminded the Council that the sewer rates will increase starting in January by 5%, and water and sewer rates will increase in May by 5%. Hartke asked the Council to start thinking about those increases, or if they wanted to hold off again this year. Commissioner Hakman stated that it seems our rates are higher than most in the area. Commissioner Groves understood that, but he believes we should proceed with the increases because we have a \$1.7 million bond which will need to be paid back. Mayor Hartke said that it will be on the next agenda for discussion as well.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment was made.

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DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police Chief Schabbing gave the council a year-end report showing that they handled over 1300 calls this year with 166 calls in October alone and 19 crash reports.

Public Works Superintendent Durbin didn't have a report.

Building Inspector Morrison said that he, along with attorney Flood, City Administrator Evans, building owner Jerry Lindley and his attorney, toured the building at 595 Chestnut Avenue. Morrison said that there are some concerns, but the attorney recommended the city hire an outside structural engineer and wait for his report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Hakman made a motion to go into executive session at 7:51 p.m. for Personnel – Section 2(c)(1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation discipline, and performance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Groves, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 8:48 p.m. by a motion from Commissioner Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Groves. Those present for roll call were Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Hakman, Helm, and Mayor Hartke.

2022 WAGES

Commissioner Groves made the following motion for wages in 2022:

Superintendent of Public Works Durbin	\$53,247.64
Public Works Employee Shumard	\$23.54 / hour
Public Works Employee Haskett	\$20.07 / hour
Police Chief Schabbing	\$58,210.41
Police Officer Fuller	\$52,510.59
Police Officer Moore	\$44,850.00
Police Officer McConnell	\$18 / hour
Police Officer – Part time	\$16 / hour
City Treasurer Foor	\$64,653.69
City Administrator Evans	\$71,552.35
Building Inspector Morrison	\$450 / month
Animal Control Boeser	\$15 / animal and \$10 per hour

Also, all full-time employees will receive \$50 in Community Bucks and a \$25 certificate for Neoga Market, and part time employees and Zoning Board will receive \$25 in Community Bucks. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Helm, Hakman, Edwards, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Hakman, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk