



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
APRIL 26, 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 Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Other's present were City Clerk Brenda Evans, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Police Chief Andy Schabbing, Milano & Grunloh Engineer Lee Beckman, and Neoga News Editor Billie Chambers.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from April 12, 2021, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, and Helm. Mayor Hartke abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HARTKE

EMPLOYEE SERVICE PRESENTATION

Mayor Hartke presented a certificate of appreciation to City Treasurer Diana Foor for 20 years of service. On behalf of the Council, Mayor Hartke thanked her for her dedication and hard work over the past 20 years.

WATER AND SEWER INCREASE

City Clerk Evans asked the Council to review the water and sewer rates for the coming fiscal year. Evans explained that last year the Council decided to hold off on the rate increase due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Mayor Hartke stated that he would like to keep it as low as possible, but he also understands that maintenance must be done on the distribution systems as well. City Clerk Evans reminded the Council that the funds need to self-sustain themselves, and they did just borrow over \$1,000,000 for the wastewater treatment plant construction. Mayor Hartke commented that he would like to see where Neoga's rates compare to those of other communities close to our size. Engineer Beckman said that he could get some rate information from other communities if that would help. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to review other communities' rates before deciding on the increase.

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ORDINANCE 1003-04-21 An Ordinance Authorizing the Lease of Real Estate (Scott Partlow and Leslie Partlow – Cash Rent Farm Lease)

After review of the ordinance, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept the ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

CITY WIDE CLEANUP

The Council discussed the need for a city-wide cleanup. City Clerk Evans said that Howard's Trash Service would be available at the same rate as last year. With little discussion, Commissioner Helm made a motion to hold the Citywide Cleanup on June 22, 2021 from 8-12. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Helm, Hakman, Edwards, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

SPECIAL EVENT LIQUOR LICENSE

City Clerk Evans told the council that the Neoga Days Committee has requested a two (2) day liquor license for the beer tent during Neoga Days. After a little discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to grant the request for a special liquor license. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, Commissioner Helm. Motion carried. 3-1.

PURCHASE OF FLOWERPOTS

City Treasure Foor asked the Council if they would be willing to purchase new flowerpots for the downtown area. After a lengthy discussion about the size of the pots, Commissioner Helm said that he would review the area and make sure there is enough room to place the pots on the sidewalks. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to allow up to \$4,000 to purchase flowerpots. Commissioner Hakman seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES

MONTHLY BILLS

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$270,525.36. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER HAKMAN

PROJECT UPDATES FROM LEE BECKMAN

Engineer Beckman gave his monthly update on the City projects as follows:

Sewer Plant: The pre-construction meeting and loan closing was held on March 26th, and the Contractor has mobilized and started to remove the sludge. Change Order #1 in the amount of a \$28,000 increase to extend the length of the blower building, and Change Order #2 for \$77,325 for replacement of a sanitary sewer on Locust Street from 5th Street to 4th Street (from the RLF Project) were given to the Council.

RLF PROJECT EXTENSION

The Contractor has requested a 90-day time extension and submitted a timetable as well. Beckman explained that the Contractor would like to have more time to work on the RLF project, but they should be able to have the wastewater treatment plant done sooner. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to expend the deadline. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR WWTP

Engineer Beckman explained to the Council that there are two (2) change orders that need to be approved. Change order #1 for the wastewater treatment plant was to extend the length of the blower building which would increase the cost by \$28,000. Commissioner Hakman made a motion to approve the Change order #1 in the amount of \$28,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

CHANGE ORDER #2 FOR WWTP

Engineer Beckman told the Council that the change order #2 is to replace the sanitary sewer on Locust Avenue from 5th Street to 4th Street which is the part of the RLF project that the Council eliminated. After a very brief discussion, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to approve Change Order #2 in the amount of \$77,325. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PAY ESTIMATE #2B

The Council reviewed pay request #2B. After a brief explanation, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to approve the pay request in the amount of \$17,860.68. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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PAY ESTIMATE #3A

Commissioner Hakman made a motion to approve the pay request #3A in the amount of \$147,903.48 for the RLF water main and sanitary sewer replacement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

PUBLIC WORKS MOWER

Commissioner Edwards told the Council that he wanted them to think about the purchase of a new tractor with side mower and bucket compared to a new ZTR. It was the consensus of the Council to have Superintendent Durbin at the meeting to discuss.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER HELM

Commissioner Helm reported that vehicles are still parking incorrectly in the 200 block of E. 6th Street, and he felt the parking lines should be repainted. Helm said that the Public Works department should be able to sweep the area and paint them. It was agreed to have the department do it instead of hiring it out.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None were given.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to go into executive session at 8:02 p.m. for Sale or Lease of Real Estate – Section 2 (c)(6) – Limited to actual setting of price for Sale or Lease of Public Property. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 8:34 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Edwards. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Edwards, Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke.

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ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date