

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
JANUARY 8, 2018 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 Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Others present were City Clerk Brenda Evans, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Superintendent Tom Helm, Police Chief Andy Schabbing, Building Inspector Jeff Morrison, Gene Creek, Debbie Creek, Barbara Beal, Rob Martin, Bill McKinney, and Phyllis Krueger.

MINUTES

After reviewing the minutes, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to approve the regular and executive session minutes from December 11, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP

Ordinance #904-01-18 An Ordinance Approving Membership in the Illinois Municipal League Risk Management Association and Authorizing the Execution of an Intergovernmental Cooperation Contract.

After reviewing the ordinance, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to approve the ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

Bill McKinney, Car Wash Proposal

Bill McKinney from Moweaqua, Illinois approached the council about putting a new automatic car wash on the property located at 796 Oak Avenue. McKinney said that the car wash would consist of one automatic bay, two (2) manual wash bays, and an outside bay for larger vehicles. McKinney said that if room allowed, he would add a dog wash in the building as well. The Council said that they were very interested in selling the property, but they wanted to know how many lots he needed. McKinney told the Council that he felt three (3) lots totaling 120' wide would be enough to do everything, and this would include vacuums and an ice & water vending machine. Commissioner Lindley asked how long it would take to construct the business, and Mr. McKinney said that once ground was broke it would be around 120 days. The Council asked Mr. McKinney to bring back design plans for the next meeting in hopes that all the commissioners would be able to discuss the plans.

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NEOGA HISTORY ROOM

Barb Beals, committee person for the Neoga History Room, asked the Council if there was a way that the Council and the Neoga History room could share the current Council chambers. Beals said that the committee understands the space is needed by more than just the Council and the committee could allow others to meet in that room by having everything in locked cabinets until the Council decided to expand the building or leave it the way it is. After a brief discussion, the Council agreed to share the room, and if the Neoga History committee wanted to bring plans for the room they would discuss it at the next meeting.

ORDINANCE #905-01-18 An Ordinance Amending the City of Neoga Personnel Policy and Procedures (Sexual Harassment Policy)

After reviewing the ordinance, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to accept Ordinance #905-01-18 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

GENE & DEBBIE CREEK

Debbie Creek stated that she and her husband did not intend to do anything against regulation with the City of Neoga when they moved their portable building onto their lot, and they would like to resolve the issue. Creek said that they would be willing to move the building and put concrete under the structure to make it more of a garage; however, they would like the city to dismiss the fines asserted on them in the amount of \$5400. Mrs. Creek said that they thought they had done everything correctly by asking about a permit when other people didn't follow the zoning regulations. After a lengthy conversation, Commissioner Hartke explained that he would like to discuss this issue when all the council members were present, and Mr. & Mrs. Creek agreed. The Creeks asked if it would be ok to explain their side of the story to Commissioner Edwards and Commissioner Groves prior to the next meeting. Mayor Kepp agreed this would be a good idea. It was the consensus of the Council to discuss this at the next meeting.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER HARTKE

TREASURER'S REPORT

After reviewing the treasurer's report, Mayor Kepp ordered the financial report to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER GROVES

No report was given.

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STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

No report was given.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

No report was given.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Police Chief Schabbing said that he completed his annual year end report, and the traffic count is down from previous years. Schabbing assumed it was due to having one less full-time officer for a few months in the past couple of years. Also, Narcan class is schedule for the 23rd of January, and the department employees are working on goals for 2018 and updating the old equipment.

Superintendent Helm reviewed his year end report and told the Council that the public works department took all the Christmas lights down off of the light poles. Helm said that they also took all the decorations off of the community Christmas tree and will remove it later in the week. Mr. Helm also said that he is working on the MFT project for this year and will update the Council in the coming weeks.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Hartke made a motion at 8:10 pm to move into executive session for Sale or Lease of Real Estate – Section 2 (c) (6) – limited to actual setting of price for sale or lease of public property; Personnel - Section 2 (c) (1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance; and Litigation – Section 2 (c) (11) – pending, probable, or imminent litigation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried.3-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 8:55 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Lindley. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Lindley, Hartke, and Mayor Kepp.

Commissioner Hartke made a motion to allow the public works employees to receive a \$.50 pay increase if they pass a Class D water license. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

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ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Lindley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Hartke, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date