



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
JUNE 22, 2020**

**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, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Others present were City Clerk Brenda Evans, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Building Inspector Jeff Morrison, Engineer Lee Beckman, and Neoga News Editor Billie Chambers.

**MINUTES**

After reviewing the regular and executive session minutes from June 8, 2020, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Commissioner Groves abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HARTKE**

**CDBG DOWNSTATE SMALL BUSINESS STABILIZATION GRANT**

Mayor Hartke asked the Council if they had any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the public hearing about the CDBG Downstate Small Business Stabilization Grant. No one had any.

**RESOLUTION #03-06-20**    A Resolution of Support for Application for a Community Development Block Grant Program

After reviewing the resolution, Mayor Hartke asked for a motion. Commissioner Edwards said that he would like to do additional research on the program before proceeding. Commissioner Groves asked if we could get answers from Coles County Regional Planning before proceeding with the resolution. It was the consensus of the council to table this resolution until the next meeting.

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**ELECTRIC AGGREGATION CONTRACT**

City Clerk Evans told the Council that the electric aggregation contract with Homefield Energy will be expiring in the fall, and Good Energy held a bid letting for a large group of local communities. The projected bids came in as follows:

12 months - .04317

18 months - .04340

24 months - .04370

36 months - .04430

After reviewing the projected rates, Commissioner Groves made a motion to accept a bid for 18 months at .04340. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Edwards, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**RESOLUTION #04-06-20** A Resolution Authorizing Execution of Master Energy Purchase Agreement – Electric Commodity Sales with AEP Energy, Inc.

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, Edwards, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**457(b) PROGRAMS**

City Clerk Evans told the Council that the City has offered a 457 plan to the employees for years with Nationwide. Evans said that Nationwide has not sent a representative to the City, but Michael Noteboom from Pacific Life was referred to the city. Noteboom represents both Mattoon and Effingham employees, and he wanted to inquire if any employees would be interested in a 457(b) program. Evans proceeded to explain that currently three (3) full time employees participate in Nationwide, but the employees would like to hear more about 457 plans. Evans also explained that the employees are the only ones that contribute to these plans, and since it would not be an expense to the city, it would be another benefit to the employees. With little discussion, Commissioner Groves made a motion to allow a second 457(b) plan with Pacific Life for the employees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Hakman, Edwards, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

**ORDINANCE #975-06-20** An Ordinance Establishing Fees for Fingerprinting Services

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

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### **FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES**

#### **MONTHLY BILLS**

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Groves made a motion to pay the monthly bills as presented, in the amount of \$105,199.83. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Hakman, Edwards, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0

### **PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER HAKMAN**

#### **LEE BECKMAN, UPDATE ON PROJECTS**

SEWER PLANT – The preliminary Engineering Report was sent to the IEPA on May 11, 2017. The IEPA has approved the concept. The schedule is being modified with the NPDES Permit update. The sewer application was funded at \$500,000. They will plan to bid the project in the next 30 days. The IEPA plans and permits have been sent to the IEPA.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL – IDOT recommended an application extending the previous ITEP Grant. The new SRTS to school application was submitted on November 19, 2018 and was not funded.

BRIGHTON CABINETS – The bid letting was held on March 18, 2020 with the low bidder being DARAD, Inc. The contract was awarded to DARAD, Inc., and sent to Greg Palmer with IDOT for approval. The Pre-Construction Conference was held on May 18, 2020, and the contractor has started. The company has completed the highway bore and will be doing the rest of the project in the next couple of weeks.

CDAP WATER GRANT – DCEO had a grant writing workshop in February with grants due on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Beckman handed out a map showing the proposed grant application area. This grant will be applied for this year. The new DCEO guidelines do not require income surveys. They will need photos, letters, etc. to document the health and safety issues.

STATE GRANT (\$100,000) – The state has “reactivated” the grant again. Quarterly Reports are now being completed. This money will be used with the RLF. Milano & Grunloh will plan to bid this project in approximately 30 days.

ITEP – The City applied for a \$1,014,960 grant with \$253,740 in leverage. The project map and estimate were handed out. Grant applications were submitted on December 1, 2017, and the project received partial (small) funding in the amount of \$26,400 (PE 1). Before future ITEP applications are submitted, all engineering must be completed. Based

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upon current ITEP information, only PE 1 will be required. The previous two statements have been changed. With additional funds coming from gas taxes, gaming, marijuana, etc., IDOT has stated the applications will be due in late summer or early fall 2020. The joint agreement has been approved and executed by the City. Beckman said that they are now waiting on execution by IDOT.

RLF PROJECT – a map and estimate for the Revolving Loan Funds (RLF) project was handed out. The City has secured administration and engineering services. The grant agreement has been executed and is back from DCEO. Design has started with the field survey, and plans completed. Plans and permits have been sent to the IEPA. The railroad permit will be the item that could potentially delay the project. They plan to bid the project in 30 days.

### MILANO & GRUNLOH INVOICE #23777

Commissioner Hakman explained the Milano & Grunloh invoice #23777 was for wastewater treatment plant improvements design work. Engineer Beckman said that the design work is 60% completed. Commissioner Hakman made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

### MILANO & GRUNLOH INVOICE #23791

Engineer Beckman told the council that the invoice presented to them was for design engineering for the Revolving Loan Fund project and has less than 15% of design work left. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the pay request as presented in the amount of \$7,580. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

### COMMUNITY CENTER LEASES

City Clerk Evans asked the Council if they would like to offer a longer lease agreement with the tenants at the Community Center. Evans said that the leases are coming up for renewal, and it was mentioned that the new lease might be extended to 2 to 5 years. It was the consensus of the Council to offer the 2 to 5-year lease with a graduated increase to the rent.

### VACANT PROPERTIES ON OAK

City Clerk Evans told the Council that she has spoke with Joni McClure about listing the real estate lots owned by the City on Oak Avenue. Evans said that McClure recommended listing the lots as follows:

- 756 Oak Avenue (Block 7 Lots 4-6) for \$50,000
- 796 Oak Avenue (Block 7 Lots 1-3) for \$50,000

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- 890 Oak Avenue (Block 2 Lots 1-4) for \$80,000

Commissioner Hakman said that he agreed with the asking price on the lots, but he also wanted to make sure it will be required to have commercial use on the properties. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Edwards, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Commissioner Hakman also mentioned that several properties around town had ordinance violations, and he wanted to know if those could be addressed. Evans explained that she would have Chief Schabbing start taking pictures again and address those problem areas.

## **STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS**

### **MILANO & GRUNLOH INVOICE #23776**

Commissioner Edwards explained the invoice from Milano & Grunloh was for the drainage project out by Kepp Avenue. Engineer Beckman told the council that the project has been started and should be completed within a few weeks. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$23,776. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER HELM**

No report was given.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Hakman, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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Brenda Evans, City Clerk

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Date