

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
MARCH 11, 2019**

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 Lindley, Edwards, Groves, and Mayor Kepp. Others present were City Clerk Brenda Evans, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Superintendent Shawn Durbin, Neoga News Editor Billie Chambers, Engineer Narendra Patel, and Tom Helm.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the regular session minutes from February 25, 2019. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Ayes, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR KEPP

WEIU SPONSOR FOR “THIS IS OUR STORY”

City Clerk Evans explained to the Council that Eastern Illinois University television station WEIU will be filming “This is Our Story” about Cumberland County. They are asking for financial support from the communities and residents of Cumberland County. They will also be asking for “story tellers” who will be taped telling about Cumberland County and each community. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to table the sponsorship until a later date.

NEOGA DAYS DONATION

City Clerk Evans told the Council that the Neoga Days Committee has asked if the City would like to sponsor this year. The sponsorships were as follows:

- \$ 438Neoga News
- \$ 500.....Facebook Sponsored Ads
- \$1303.....Radio Advertising
- \$3498.....Lake Land Printing – Neoga Days books, placemats, & banners

Commissioner Groves made a motion to donate \$500. The motion lacked a second and the council decided to table it until the next meeting.

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PURCHASE OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

City Treasurer Foor told the Council that she had received the lights from two different Christmas companies, and after reviewing the different lights the Council agreed on the cool white LED lights. Foor then explained that the number of poles with power on them for lights are 37. Treasurer Foor also stated that the NPP Christmas Committee agreed to spend their \$4500 toward the lights. After a brief discussion about the warranty on the lights and the need for them in Neoga, Commissioner Groves made a motion to pay the remaining balance to purchase 37 Snow Flake Christmas lights. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

TIF AGREEMENT WITH FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

City Clerk Evans explained to the Council that the agreement has not been completed by the attorney, so it would have to be reviewed at the next meeting.

ORDINANCE #933-03-19 An Ordinance in Connection with Rights and Responsibilities Related to Locally Imposed and Administered Taxes of the City of Neoga, Illinois

City Clerk Evans explained that this ordinance is in regard to the Avazar audit. With little discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept the ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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

2019 ANNUAL CMOM REPORT

Engineer Narendal Patel presented the Council with the completed 2019 Annual CMOM report. Patel explained that Superintendent Durbin had most of the information for the report ready and was able to explain any problems with the current sewer system. Patel said that Manhole #43 which is located along RT. #45 is still surcharging on occasion, but it will be addressed during the water and sewer project coming up. Also manhole #3 located by the wastewater treatment plant was listed as another surcharging issue during heavy rains. Also, the sewer mains on 5th & 7th Street that go under the railroad tracks

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should be reviewed. Patel recommended that the City should set aside a portion of the wastewater revenue for future issues with this area. Engineer Patel did ask if the Council would like to just file the report or proceed with sending the report to the IEPA for their files. It was the consensus to send a copy of the report to the IEPA as well.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH FEHR GRAHAM

Engineer Narendal Patel presented the council with a general sanitary sewers consulting agreement. According to the agreement, Fehr Graham will provide the City of Neoga general engineering services on an “as-needed, as-requested” basis. The city would be billed on a time and material basis. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to table the agreement until the next meeting.

PURCHASE OF TABLES AND CHAIRS FOR COMMUNITY CENTER

City Clerk Evans gave the council a spreadsheet for the prices of tables and chairs from five (5) different companies. After a lengthy discussion about the number and price per table and chair, Commissioner Groves made a motion to spend \$8,500 on tables and chairs at this time. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Edwards, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

6th STREET RECONSTRUCTION

Commissioner Edwards told the Council that the agreement between the County and the City of Neoga will be presented to the County Board on Tuesday night. After the Council reviewed the agreement, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the agreement to have the city pay for resurfacing the parking lanes from Oak Avenue to Maple Avenue on both sides of E. 6th Street. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

Commissioner Lindley said that he would like to have the bushes cut back on W. 7th Street and Chestnut Avenue. Lindley also mentioned the EIRC still hasn't fixed the tracks on 6th or 7th Street, and he would like to try and get the company to replace and / or repair the tracks and walking path.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

City Treasurer Diana Foor asked the Council to revisit the possibility of replacing the Municipal Building sign. Foor explained that it is getting beyond repair.

Superintendent Shawn Durbin reported that the department has started to work on the drainage problem at the corner of E. 6th Street and Burrows Avenue. Durbin said that they were able to open it from the middle of the block to the drainage ditch; however, they still need to work on the culvert under Burrows Avenue.

Durbin also asked about the upcoming mowing season, and he would like to start thinking about hiring a company, a maintenance person, or a couple part time students.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Kepp. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date