



5/25/21
7:38 a.m.



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
MAY 10, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Hartke Groves. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Helm, Hakman, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Commissioner Edwards was absent. Others present were City Treasurer Public Works Superintendent Durbin, and Neoga News Editor Billie Chambers.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular and executive session minutes from April 26, 2021, Commissioner Helm made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Helm, Hakman and Mayor Hartke. Commissioner Groves abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HARTKE

ORDINANCE #1004-05-21 An ordinance Indefinitely Delaying the Effective Date of an Increase of Water Rates and Sewer Rates in the City of Neoga, Illinois

Commissioner Groves told the Council that he did not like the word “indefinitely” in this ordinance, and asked if there was any policy that would require the Council to review this ordinance if it was passed. Grove’s concern was that if it passed the rate ordinance would be forgotten, and years down the road the city would be losing money in that department. Commissioner Hakman agreed that he did not like the verbiage either, and asked if it could be changed. The ordinance was tabled until the verbiage was changed.

ORDINANCE #1005-05-21 An Appointment Ordinance for the City of Neoga, Illinois

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

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APPOINTMENT TO CCDC BOARD

City Clerk Evans told the Council that they could appoint two representatives to the Cumberland County Development Corporation board. Evans said that the last representatives were Zach Letizia and her. Evans also said that Randy Mendenhall volunteered to represent Neoga as well. After a lengthy discussion about appointing two representatives to the Cumberland County Development Corporation Board, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to appoint Zach Letizia and Shawn Durbin. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Groves, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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.

ARNDT MUNICIPAL SUPPORT, INC. CONSULTING AGREEMENT

Commissioner Groves told the Council that he and City Clerk Evans has been looking at moving to a budget system for the city, but he would like to get additional information from the auditor. This agreement was tabled.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER HAKMAN

NEOGA MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Commissioner Hakman informed the Council that M & E Lawn Service has expressed concerns about the drainage at the cemetery and would like to clean out the brush along a ditch on the west end of the cemetery. Mayor Hartke was concerned that the ditch may not be on the city's property. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to discuss the situation with the other property owner.

PAY REQUEST FOR PAMPERIN CONSULTING, INC.

After reviewing the invoice, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$11,280 for the wastewater treatment plant project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Groves, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PAY REQUEST FOR PAMPERIN CONSULTING, INC.

After reviewing the invoice, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$2,700 for the RLF project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Groves, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

TREE REMOVAL

Superintendent Durbin informed the Council that several trees on the City boulevard are in need of removal. To have all five (5) trees and stumps removed, the cost would be \$5,300. Commissioner Groves commented that he does not like removing trees without replacing a tree somewhere. Mayor Hartke and the other Commissioners agreed. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to have Strasburg Tree Service remove the trees listed in the amount of \$5,300. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Groves, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

The Council instructed City Clerk Evans to add a tree replacement program on the next agenda.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER HELM

Commissioner Helm said that he has noticed that people are parking incorrectly at the First Neighbor Bank area and asked that Superintendent Durbin have the public works department clean the area up and restripe 6th Street as well as the crosswalks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment was made.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Hakman made a motion to go into executive session at 7:40 p.m. for Personnel – Section 2 (c) (1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline, and performance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Hakman, Groves, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 7:48 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Groves. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Groves, Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Groves made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.