

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
OCTOBER 12, 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 Helm, Hakman, Edwards, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, Chief of Police Andy Schabbing, Superintendent Shawn Durbin, and Neoga News Editor Billie Chambers.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from September 27, 2021, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Helm. Ayes, Commissioner Helm, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Abstain, Commissioners Edwards and Groves, Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HARTKE

ORDINANCE #1021-10-21 An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Assignment of Agreement to Purchase (452 Locust Avenue, Neoga, Illinois)

Mayor Hartke explained that a 3rd party is interested in purchasing the property located at 452 Locust Avenue. This ordinance gives him the authority to purchase the property from the current owner. With no further questions, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to pass Ordinance 1021-10-21.

It was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Helm, Hakman, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

MEDIACOM INTERNET SERVICE

Police Chief Schabbing informed the council that he is having trouble uploading police videos due to the speed of the internet. He presented a quote from Mediacom for a 60/5Mbps package; however, after checking with an IT consultant, he did not think that was fast enough. It was recommended to get a quote for faster service that could easily handle the large amount of data involved with the videos. Commissioner Groves asked if there was a possibility of getting fiber in the area. Treasurer Foor stated that City Clerk Evans was already checking on it. The Council decided to table this and get an updated quote from Mediacom as well as check further into fiber. Commissioner Groves also asked for quotes to upgrade the internet at the City Office.

VIKING CAPITAL TIF AGREEMENT

The Council discussed the application for 558 Oak Avenue, Neoga. The applicant is asking for a total of \$31,400. The breakdown is as follows: Façade replacement, \$4,900; Electrical Rehab, \$13,000, and Interior Structural Rehab, \$13,500. After a lengthy discussion, the council agreed to pay \$4,900

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -2-

OCTOBER 12, 2021

(100%) for the façade, \$9,550 for the electrical rehab, and \$9,550 for the interior structural rehab. This brings the total grant to \$24,000. Commissioner Hakman made a motion to grant Viking Capital \$24,000 for repairs to 558 Oak Ave, Neoga. It was seconded by Commissioner Edwards, Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Helm, Hakman, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE

The council reviewed a handout with health insurance quotes. Treasurer Foor explained that the City's current insurance is Blue Cross Blue Shield; however, starting on November 17th this insurance will not be accepted at Springfield Clinic. This is a concern for several employees who use that clinic. In addition, the new quote for BCBS is higher than a comparable plan with Health Alliance. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Groves made a motion to accept the quote for Health Alliance's 2021 POS 1500 Gold plan at a rate of \$6,076.44 per month, and to keep the employee portion at \$25 per month. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Helm, Hakman, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES

TREASURER'S REPORT

With a short discussion, Mayor Hartke ordered that the treasurer's report be filed in the City Clerk records.

IMLRMA LIABILITY INSURANCE

Commissioner Groves presented the renewal from the Illinois Municipal League Risk Management Association. The bid was \$37,368.07 if paid by 11/19/21. This includes a 1% pay in full discount. Commissioner Groves made a motion to accept the bid. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER HAKMAN

ORDINANCE 1020-10-21

An Ordinance Amending Article III of Chapter 70 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Neoga, Illinois, and Establishing Standards and Procedures for the Placement of Culverts within Public Right-of-Ways

With no discussion, Commissioner Hakman made a motion to accept the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

ORDINANCE 1022-10-21

An Ordinance Authorizing Purchase of Easement for Utility Purposes (Gaugh Easement)

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

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -3-

OCTOBER 12, 2021

REPAIRS OF TRACTOR

Superintendent Durbin stated that the Massey tractor is still at Buening Implement. It has been torn down for a long time, and he wanted the council to decide if they wanted to repair it. An estimate for \$20,159.79 was presented. This was for an engine overhaul, but it may be more since the estimate was given with only the oil pan off. After a lengthy discussion, the council decided it was not worth the money to fix it. Buening's is willing to buy the tractor for \$2,500. The city owns a broom and plow that will not fit anything, so Buening's is willing to purchase these items for \$1,500.00 for both items. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to not fix the tractor, and to sell the tractor, broom, and plow to Buening Implement for a total of \$4,000.00. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Hakman, Edwards, Helm, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

Nothing to discuss

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER HELM

Nothing to discuss

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chief of Police Schabbing reported:

- He and Treasurer Foor are applying for a grant for a squad car through the USDA
- The department is hosting canine training for area units at the Community Center

Superintendent Durbin reported:

- He is working on getting EPA approval to disconnect the raw water line and the distribution line. Commissioner Groves asked him to get the EPA approval in writing.
- He wants to get the bushhog to mow between 6th & 7th Street.
- Bushhogging has been completed between 5th & 6th Street

Commissioner Hakman stated that he and Commissioner Edwards met with Steven Baldwin from Ameren concerning the electric and gas at Walk's Subdivision, First Addition. An email was handed out for the council to review

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Groves made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Helm, Hakman, Groves, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.