

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019**

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 Clerk Brenda Evans, Building Inspector Jeff Morrison, and Randy Mendenhall.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular and executive session minutes from August 26, 2019, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Groves, Hakman, and Mayor Hartke. Commissioner Helm abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HARTKE

NEOGA AMERICAN LEGION LIQUOR LICENSE AMENDMENT

American Legion Commander Randy Mendenhall discussed with the Council the idea of amending the liquor license so that people under 21 would be able to attend, and/ or entertain in the reception hall. Mendenhall said that they have had live entertainment and due to local individuals or groups that are under 21 years of age, they are not able to be there after 9:00 p.m. Mendenhall requested that minors be allowed to stay in the hall until midnight or 1:00 a.m. so that they can play until the bar closes. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to have the City Attorney proceed with amending the liquor license.

Mr. Mendenhall also informed the Council that he will be completing a TIF application due to the need to replace the roofs at all three of the Legion buildings. Mendenhall said that he understands the Council will no longer fulfill application requests at 100 %, but asked if they would reconsider the percentage amount because the American Legion donates most of their extra funds to local organizations. According to Mr. Mendenhall, the Legion doesn't have enough in their savings account for these types of repairs. In the past couple years, Mendenhall said the Legion has given 5 scholarships to the school, Cumberland County American Legion ball team, and Camp New Hope, and PTO as well. Mendenhall stated that they are the oldest business in Neoga chartered in 1917 and they are not going anywhere, but they need help replacing 3 roofs which will cost around \$60,000.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -2-

SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

TRASH SERVICE COMPANIES

City Clerk Evans told the Council that she has been asked to discuss with the Council the idea of having one sanitary hauler in Neoga. Evans said that the billing would come through the city on the resident's water bill, and the sanitation company would bill the City directly. Evans said that one advantage would be to eliminate 3 different trash trucks driving on alleys to only 1 company, or we can keep all the trash trucks off the alleys. The other advantage is that the haulers would increase their customers in Neoga and pass that onto the customers by lowering their bill. After a lengthy discussion about the advantages and disadvantages, it was the consensus of the Council to have a public discussion on it.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES

TREASURER'S REPORT

After a brief discussion, Mayor Hartke ordered the financial report to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

Commissioner Groves also requested that all department heads have a list of needed equipment and / or services for the coming year before November 1st.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER HAKMAN

Commissioner Hakman didn't have anything to report, but he did remind the Council that the 5th Annual Soeeyfest will be held on Saturday, September 28th at Jennings Park.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

Commissioner Edwards told the Council that the Public Works department has been very busy with cleaning up limbs around town due to the storm damage, and now they are trying to catch up with mowing. Edwards said that he did have a concern with the general public going behind the maintenance building and cutting logs for personal use. Edwards explained that he was told that someone is using a chainsaw and might be a liability concern. It was the consensus of the Council to talk to our City Attorney about putting signs up to cover the liability issues.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER HELM

No report

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments were heard.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
PAGE -3-
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Groves made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hakman. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Helm, Hakman, Edwards, and Mayor Hartke. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date