



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Helm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were Commissioners Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Others present were City Clerk Brenda Evans, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Police Chief Andy Schabbing, and Public Works Supervisor Shawn Durbin. Others present were Dustin Hay, and First Christian Church Youth Minister Mike Edmonson.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular and executive session minutes from August 28, 2023, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HELM

NEOGA PARTNERSHIP FOR PROGRESS LIQUOR LICENSE

City Clerk Evans informed the council that the Neoga Partnership for Progress has requested a special event liquor license for the 2023 Sooeyfest. Commissioner Schabbing asked if this is a normal request, and Mayor Helm said it was. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the liquor license for 2023 Sooeyfest. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RESOLUTION 08-09-23 **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT AGREEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATION AND COORDINATION SERVICES FOR GRANT APPROPRIATION (COLES COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT)**

After reviewing the resolution, Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH COLES COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING

After reviewing the proposed contract agreement with Coles County Regional Planning, Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to accept the agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CENTRAL ILLINOIS RAILROAD COMPANY

City Clerk Evans explained that the lease agreement before them was for the property between 6th and 7th Street along Rt. #45. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the 5 year lease agreement for \$500. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schabbing. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER SCHABRING

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Schabbing asked if the City earmarked the cannabis tax from the State of Illinois. Treasurer Foor explained the tax is placed in the general fund, as well as most of the other taxes the city receives from the State. Schabbing also asked what the monthly expense ratio was for the Neoga Community Center. Treasurer Foor also explained that it depends on the utilities, but there is always a loss. When no other questions were asked, Mayor Helm ordered that the treasurer's report be filed in the City Clerk's records.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER LETIZIA

PURCHASE OF FLAGPOLE AT SITTING PARK

Superintendent Durbin told the Council that the flagpole at the sitting park should be replaced. Durbin explained the flagpole had to have a bolt in it to keep the pole up. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Williams made a motion to purchase a new flagpole in the amount of \$3,150. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PURCHASE OF GENERATOR FOR MAINTENANCE BUILDING

Superintendent Durbin asked the Council to purchase a generator for the maintenance building. Durbin said that when the power goes out they are not able to open the shop doors without propping them up with boards, and the fuel pump will not work. Durbin said when the power was out for a couple days in June they were not able to use the fuel pump for the backhoe. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to hold off on this purchase.

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STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

2023 MFT PROGRAM

Commissioner Edwards said the MFT program went well, and the roads look great. Edwards felt IDOT overestimated the rock, but the city should have rock for the next program. Superintendent Durbin said that he was getting estimates to move the rock, but the cost would be \$150 per load and \$175/hr. for the loader. Commissioner Schabbing said she thinks the rock will be fine where it is for a year.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS

CITY WIDE CLEANUP UPDATE

Commissioner Williams said the city-wide cleanup was a great success. Williams said he is still reviewing the household cleanup program, and he has sent the regulations to City Clerk Evans as well.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dustin Hay told the Council that he would like to serve on the Neoga Economic Committee. Hay said that he has economic experience from construction where he had four construction crews from Illinois to Florida under him. Hay also mentioned that he has his blueprints and lot plan ready for a new house on Grove Avenue, and he has lined up a contractor to remove the house, trees, and clean up the property.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to move into executive session for Personnel – Section 2 (c)(1) Employee hiring, firing, compensations, discipline, and performance at 7:41 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 9:03 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Williams. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schabbing. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to pay part time police officers \$25 per hour. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, Commissioner Schabbing.

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to offer a new public works employee \$23 per hour depending on qualifications. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk