



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
MARCH 24, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were Commissioners Williams, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing. Others present were City Clerk Brenda Evans, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Police Chief Schabbing, Building Inspector Jeff Morrison, Engineer Lee Beckman, Neoga News Editor Billie Chambers, and Shari Morrison.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular and executive session minutes from March 10, 2025, Commissioner Letizia made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing. Nays, none. Commissioner Edwards abstained. Motion carried. 3-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HELM

WATER AND WASTEWATER RATE INCREASE

The Council discussed the upcoming water and wastewater rate increase. City Administrator / Clerk Evans reminded the Council that the annual water and wastewater increase of 5% for each will take effect in May. Evans explained that the increase will be automatic unless the council would like to postpone the increase. Commissioner Letizia said that after reviewing the funds in each account, he would be fine with not increasing the rates. Finance Commissioner Schabbing agreed that at this time, the funds were sustaining themselves. Commissioner Letizia made a motion to postpone the increase in May. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Edwards, and Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

City Treasurer Foor told the Council that she checked with Illinois Rural Water Association, which the city is a member of, and they could do a rate study at no charge. Foor explained that the rate study would not be done immediately, but the city could be placed on the list to have one completed. It was the consensus of the Council to place this on the next agenda for approval.

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ORDINANCE 1105-03-25 An Ordinance Repealing Section 18-1 Through 18-4 of Chapter 18 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Neoga

City Administrator / Clerk Evans explained that this ordinance was discussed in January regarding the Zoning requirement to issue certificates after a commercial building has had any construction done to it. This would require the owner to have the building inspected by an outside source and present the certificate to the city. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Letizia. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

REDEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC INCENTIVE AGREEMENT

City Administrator / Clerk Evans asked the council to table this until Total Grain Marketing (TGM) has reviewed the agreement. Evans said she received a phone call from a TGM representative stating that they needed additional time to review the agreement with their attorney. The council agreed to table it at this time.

ORDINANCE 1106-03-25 An Ordinance Approving a Redevelopment and Economic Incentive Agreement by and Between the City of Neoga and Total Grain Marketing, LLC – Grain Elevator – Neoga TIF RPA

City Administrator / Clerk Evans again asked the Council to table this ordinance until further notice. The Council agreed.

ORDINANCE 1107-03-25 An Ordinance Approving a Conditional Use Permit Approval for a Railroad Right-of-way, Line, or Spur Track (Total Grain Marketing -397 Locust Avenue)

City Administrator / Clerk Evans asked to table this as well, and the council agreed.

LIQUOR LICENSE CREATION

City Administrator / Clerk Evans informed the Council that she had received a liquor license application for Thunder Lanes bowling alley. Commissioner Williams made a motion to have a liquor license created for the bowling alley. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER SCHABBING

MONTHLY BILLS

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Letizia made a motion to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$58,264.43. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Edwards, and Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER LETIZIA

UPDATES FROM MILANO & GRUNLOH

Engineer Lee Beckman handed out the project update sheet to the Council and explained the following:

- SWTP – The city is planning to draw down funds for legal bills and should have that total soon.
- CDAP – Construction should begin late March or early April.
- ITEP – No update.
- RFL – no updates..
- Lead Service Line Inventory grant – Wiggs Excavating has completed this project, and the paperwork was submitted to IEPA.
- Rebuild II/RISE Grant – Announcements were made, and the city was not successful this time.
- Community Facilities Grant – This application has been submitted, and if granted the city would receive \$30,000 toward a vac trailer.

PURCHASE OF WATER METERS

City Administrator / Clerk Evans said the council approved the meters at the last meeting, but she wanted to have the correct dollar amount for them to vote on. Evans said the new price after amending the number of IPERL meters to 450, software, installation, and online support was \$272,600.

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the purchase of water meters. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

NEOGA COMMUNITY CENTER LEASE

City Administrator / Clerk Evans informed the Council that the Neoga School district will be using the community center until further notice due to the damage done at the Jr. Sr. High School by the tornado on March 14th. Evans said that she has asked Attorney Willenborg to create a lease between the city of Neoga and the Neoga School District. Once that is completed, Evans will bring it back to the Council.

Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing said that she would like to talk to the council about the general fund being depleted mainly due to the expenses at the Community Center. Schabbing said that she is grateful the Neoga School District has the opportunity to use the building, but she would like the council to start thinking about the building's future after the school has finished using it.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

INTERSECTION OF 6TH AND WALNUT AVENUE

Commissioner Edwards discussed the future parking problems around the new bowling alley and steak house. Edwards said that the police department and the public works department need to review options on where visitors can park. Edwards also discussed getting quotes for concreting half a block of Walnut, south of 6th Street.

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HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS

CITY WIDE CLEANUP

Commissioner Williams mentioned the city-wide cleanup will be held on Saturday May 3rd from 8 – 11 am. Currently the city will have the normal roll offs, electronic trailer, and possibly tires and appliance recycling.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Letizia. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Pro-tem Schabbing. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Brenda Evans, City Administrator / Clerk