



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
APRIL 13, 2026**

## **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, Letizia, and Mayor Helm. Others present were City Clerk Brenda Evans, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Police Chief Andy Schabbing, First Mid Representative Toby Smith, and News Editor Billie Chambers.

## **MINUTES**

City Clerk Evans informed the Council that the minutes had an error on who the city purchased the Vac Trailer from. Instead of Coe Equipment, it should say Vermeer Midwest. After reviewing the regular session minutes from March 23, 2026, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes mentioned. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Commissioner Letizia abstained. Motion carried. 4-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments were made.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HELM**

### TOBY SMITH, FIRST MID

Toby Smith made a presentation for a health insurance leveling plan. Smith explained that he has done some research on municipal health insurance options. According to Smith, Angle Health would be the best option for the city. Mr. Smith explained the benefits compared with the city's current policy. After his presentation, the council said they will review the information and get back to him in the next few weeks.

### RESOLUTION #01-04-26    A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

The council reviewed the resolution. Commissioner Letizia made a motion to approve the resolution of support as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schabbing. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### PURCHASE OF HAVEN OF REST COLUMBARIUM AT NEOGA MEMORIAL CEMETERY

The council reviewed a business plan from Lisa O'Dell regarding the purchase of the Haven of Rest Columbarium at the Neoga Memorial Cemetery. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to negotiate a price to purchase both columbariums. The motion died for lack of a second.

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### ORDINANCE #1137-04-26 APPOINTMENT ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY OF NEOGA

After reviewing the ordinance, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### ORDINANCE #1138-04-26 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF LEASE AGREEMENT (CUMBERLAND COUNTY EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM BOARD)

After reviewing the ordinance, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept the ordinance as presented. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### MODERN FAMILY DINNER LEASE

City Administrator / Clerk asked the council to review the current lease agreement, which will expire in August. The council will review the lease agreement at a later date.

### L.E.A.D.S SYSTEM INVOICE

The council reviewed the L.E.A.D.S system invoice. Commissioner Edwards asked which communities participate in this program, and what other communities pay for the system. Evans said she wasn't sure, but it looked like it was divided by 3, and she would find out. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to pay the \$2,912.05 invoice. Commissioner Schabbing seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

## **FINANCE, COMMISSIONER SCHABHING**

### TREASURERS REPORT

The council reviewed the treasurers' report without asking any questions. Mayor Helm ordered the report to be filed.

## **PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER LETIZIA**

### SELLING OF ZX 60 CUB CADET

Commissioner Edwards told the council that the public works department has a ZX 60 Cub Cadet that was purchased a couple of years ago, but it is not a commercial mower, and it does not work well for the department. Edwards said that he feels it might be a good idea to sell the mower while it has very little hours on it. Commissioner Williams made a motion to advertise for sealed bids on the mower. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Letizia. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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**ORDINANCE #1139-04-26** An Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of an Easement for Utility Purposes (C & A Hunter, LLC)

After reviewing the ordinance, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept the ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### **REVIEW OF WATER & SEWER RATES**

The Council discussed the scheduled water and sewer rate increase effective May 1, 2026. Commissioner Letizia made a motion not to increase the water or sewer rates in May. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Commissioner Edwards abstained. Motion carried. 4-0.

### **STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS**

Commissioner Edwards informed the Council that they are still working on extending East 8<sup>th</sup> Street and West 6<sup>th</sup> Street. He is hoping to have more information at the next meeting. Edwards also mentioned that he is concerned about the intersection of West 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Walnut Avenue. Edwards said that the area is extremely rough and should be repaved. It was recommended that we have a conversation with the County Highway Department. It was the consensus of the council to contact Cumberland County Highway.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS**

Commissioner Williams reminded the council about the city-wide cleanup on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 8-11 am.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to move into executive session at 8:04 pm for Litigation Section 2 (c)(11) – Pending, probable, or imminent litigation; as well as Sale or Lease of Real Estate – Section 2 (c)(6) – Limited to actual setting of price for sale or lease of public property. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### **RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was reconvened at 8:36 p.m. Those present for roll call were Commissioners Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm.

After roll call, the council discussed plans for the upcoming city-wide cleanup on April 25<sup>th</sup>. They discussed what items would be accepted and refused.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schabbing. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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Brenda Evans, City Clerk