



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
MAY 11, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were Commissioners Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm. Others present were City Administrators/Clerk Evans, Treasurer Foor, Superintendent Durbin, and Billie Chambers.

**MINUTES**

After reviewing the minutes, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes from April 27, 2026, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Letizia. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HELM**

**CLASS D LIQUOR LICENSE FOR GRACE AND GATHER**

After reviewing the liquor application, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the class D liquor license for Julie and Walt Altman, dba Grace and Gather. Commissioner Letizia seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carry. 5-0.

**MODERN FAMILY DINNERS LEASE AGREEMENT**

The council discussed renewing the lease agreement for Modern Family Dinners. Commissioner Edwards felt \$2000 per month would be appropriate. Commissioner Letizia said the going rate for commercial property in this area was anywhere between \$1500-\$4000 per month. After a lengthy discussion, Commission Letizia made a motion to increase Modern Family Dinners to \$1500 per month for three years. Commissioner Edward seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioners Letizia and Edwards. Nays, Commissioners Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. 2-3. Motion died.

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Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to increase Modern Family Dinners' lease to \$1200 per month for three years, with an increase of \$100 per year. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, Commissioner Edwards and Letizia. Motion carried. 3-2.

## **FINANCE, COMMISSIONER SCHABGING**

### TREASURER'S REPORT

After the council reviewed the treasurer's report, and without any questions asked, Mayor Helm ordered the report to be filed.

## **PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER LETIZIA**

### CHANGE ORDER FOR WALNUT AND ALLEY PROJECT

City Clerk Evans explained that the concrete project behind the city building is almost complete. However, a change order has been requested to have asphalt on the last few feet of the south end to match up with 5th Street. Evans further explained that the reason for the asphalt was due to a tin horn being too high to allow for proper drainage. Superintendent Durban explained further how the tin horn could not be lowered to accommodate the new concrete. City Clerk Evans said that she has not received the estimated cost at this time. It was the consensus of the council to wait for the cost estimate before approving the change order.

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

### W. 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET EXTENSION

Commissioner Edwards discussed extending W. 6th St. just west of Jennings Avenue with either concrete or asphalt. Edwards explained that an engineer had reviewed the area and recommended that this project be engineered. It was the consensus of the council to get quotes on hiring an engineer.

### E. 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET EXTENSION

Commissioner Edward informed the council that the E. 8th St. extension could be oiled and chipped for under \$20,000. After little discussion, it was the consensus of the council to proceed with estimates on oil and chipping E. 8th St. once tin horns are in place.

### PAY REQUEST FOR WALNUT AND ALLEY PROJECT

After reviewing the pay request, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$133,374.18. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Motion carried. 5-0.

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**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS**

Commissioner Williams informed the council he was told there was a sinkhole in the alley between West 10th and 11th St. in the 300 block. Superintendent Durban said it has already been addressed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Letizia made a motion to move into executive session for Section 2 (c) (1) – Employee hiring, firing, compensation, and performance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was reconvened at 8:48 pm. Those present for recall were Commissioners Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm.

Commissioner Williams made a motion to hire Scott Ballinger for \$17 per hour as part-time. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 PM. Commissioner Schabbing seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioners Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm.