



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
CITY OF NEOGA  
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL  
MAY 26, 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, News Editor Billie Chambers, and Wes Chambers.

## **MINUTES**

After reviewing the regular session minutes from May 6<sup>th</sup> and two sets of regular session minutes from May 11, 2026, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve both sets of minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

After reviewing the executive minutes from April 13 and May 11, 2026, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comments were made.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HELM**

### ACCEPTANCE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The Chairman of the Neoga Economic Development Committee, Mel Workman, gave the council an updated Comprehensive Plan at a previous meeting, and after reviewing the plan, Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to accept the plan as presented. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioners Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

City Clerk Evans reminded the council that the Economic Development Committee would like to form three sub-committees to help advise them on developments. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Letizia made a motion to allow the sub-committees to be appointed by the committee. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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### **DONATION TO CUMBERLAND COUNTY FAIR**

The council discussed donating to the Cumberland County Fair for the 2026 season. Due to the lack of activities at the fair, it was the consensus of the council not to donate at this time.

### **VARIANCE FOR 470 E. 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET**

City Clerk Evans told the council that the Zoning Board held a public hearing for a variance request from Mel Workman for the property at 470 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Workman is placing a modular home on the lot, with it sitting back 30' from the front property line to the home. According to the variance request, Workman would like to add a 6' porch to the home, which would be one foot closer to the property line than is allowed. The Zoning Board recommended granting a variance due to the lack of property owners who would be affected. Commissioner Edwards moved to grant the variance as recommended. Commissioner Schabbing seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### **COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT**

The Council reviewed the Community Benefit Agreement from Glacier Moraine Solar, LLC (Earthrise) in the amount of \$550,000. Commissioner Letizia and Edwards both had questions regarding the agreement, and Commissioner Williams agreed. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to ask a representative from Earthrise to attend the next meeting.

### **DONATION TO NEOGA BASEBALL TEAM**

The council reviewed a donation request from the Neoga Baseball team, who will be playing a game against Carlisle County Comets on June 7<sup>th</sup> at Busch Stadium. The request stated a gold package for \$500 and a silver package for \$250. After a brief discussion, it was recommended that a representative from the baseball team attend a council meeting to request a donation.

## **FINANCE, COMMISSIONER SCHABHING**

### **MONTHLY BILLS**

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Schabbing moved to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$435,501.46. Commissioner Letizia seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

## **PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER LETIZIA**

### **UPDATES FROM MILANO & GRUNLOH**

Engineer Beckman was unable to attend the meeting, so there were no updates.

### **MILANO & GRUNLOH INVOICE #32800**

After reviewing the invoice, Commissioner Letizia made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$437.47. Commissioner Schabbing seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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### **MILANO & GRUNLOH INVOICE #32803**

After reviewing the invoice, Commissioner Letizia made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$8,250. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### **MILANO & GRUNLOH INVOICE #32856**

After reviewing the invoice, Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$7,193.25. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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

### **CHANGE ORDER #3 FOR ALLEY PROJECT**

Change order #3 from F & C Concrete was received for the Walnut Avenue & Alley project. This change order was to extend the contract time to add 15 days. The new contract will be extended to June 1, 2026. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the change order. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

### **CONCRETE AND/OR ASPHALT EAST OF BOWLING ALLEY**

At the last council meeting, the council tabled placing concrete or asphalt along the bowling alley due to not knowing the cost estimate. The cost estimate to install asphalt on the south end of the alley and Walnut Avenue was \$8,160. After understanding the location of the asphalt, Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve the asphalt on the south end of the alley project and a few feet on the south end of Walnut Avenue. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schabbing. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, Commissioner Letizia. Motion carried. 4-1.

### **SOLAR STOP SIGN AT 6<sup>TH</sup> & WALNUT AVENUE**

Commissioner Edwards asked the council about placing a solar stop sign on the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Walnut Avenue. Edwards said that he has noticed that vehicles coming south on Walnut do not realize there is a stop sign there. Commissioner Williams agreed, and he made a motion to approve the purchase of a new solar-powered stop sign if the current one can not be repaired. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0. Commissioner Williams also stated that the new sign should be installed immediately the day it comes in for safety purposes.

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

Commissioner Williams informed the Council that the 4-way stop solar signs look great; however, they were in the shop for a few days before being installed. During that time, there was a very close call that almost resulted in a head-on collision. Williams said that the vehicle didn't stop at the 4-way stop sign and might not have been that close had the signs been up.

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Commissioner Williams also told the council that the new railroad lights at the crossing on East 7<sup>th</sup> Street are up and working.

Commissioner Williams asked where the city stood on e-bikes on city streets. Williams said that someone leaving his business was almost run over by an e-bike that was on the sidewalk. City Clerk Evans said that they cannot be on the sidewalk in front of a business during operating hours. Police Chief Schabbing said they will be looking for that more.

Commissioner Letizia wanted to tell the council that the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls won the State Track Meet and will be having new signs put up along RT/ #45. Also, Commissioner Letizia mentioned that the Leading Lady building was for sale and thought it would be a great place for a company. Also, Letizia said that he knows someone who would be willing to write grants for the city. Evans said that Mel Workman has asked if he could hire someone to write a grant on behalf of the council. Evans explained that the council would have to decide if they want someone to write a grant, and she asked who would administer the grant. It was the consensus of the council to have Mr. Workman and Mrs. Deters attend the next meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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Brenda Evans, CMC  
City Clerk