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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Commissioner Schabbing. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were Commissioners Williams, Edwards, and Schabbing. Mayor Helm arrived at 7:05 p.m. Commissioners Letizia was absent. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, Billie Chambers, Billy Belleau, and Steve Ballinger.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from September 28, 2026, Commissioner Schabbing asked that 2 corrections be made to the limb policy. The following is the excerpt from the minutes with the changes in parentheses:
LIMB REMOVAL POLICY Commissioner Schabbing asked the council to amend the current city policy regarding the removal of limbs on city right-of-way. Schabbing said the current policy is to pick up storm damage on the right-or-way. Schabbing said that she would like to have a scheduled pick up of ~~all~~ (fallen) limbs that the residents place on the right-of-way. Commissioner Ewards said that he felt the current policy was sufficient because changing to a scheduled pick-up will cause additional work for the Public Works Department and most people can take their limbs to the burn pile or burn the limbs on their property. After a very lengthy discussion, Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to change the policy to have limbs picked up by the Public Works Department on the second Tuesday of each month(.) ~~,but also when they see limbs on the right-of-way.~~
Commissioner Schabbing made the motion to approve the amended minutes of September 28, 2026 with the corrections. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioners Schabbing, Williams, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HELM

<u>DONATION TO CAMP NEW HOPE</u>
Billy Belleau, representing Camp New Hope, addressed the council. He shared that they are approximately $70,000 in the red due to some major repairs that were needed to the facility. Expenses such as payroll and supplies have also increased. He also stated that they do not receive Federal or State funds. He asked the council to consider a $2,000 donation. After no other discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the $2,000 donation to Camp New Hope. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Williams and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER SCHABBING

TREASURER'S REPORT
After reviewing the treasurer's report, Mayor Helm ordered that the treasurer's report be filed in the City Clerk's records.

ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE RISK MANAGEMENT INSURANCE INVOICE FOR 2027
Treasurer Foor presented the invoice for general insurance and workman's comp for 2027. She explained that the city typically pays Option 1, which gives the city a 1% discount on the premium. The total amount due after the discount is $47,496.76. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to pay the $47,496.76 invoice to get the discount. Commissioner Schabbing seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER LETIZIA

PURCHASE OF PEA GRAVEL FOR WATER PLANT BUILDING RENOVATION
Public work's employee Steve Ballinger told the council that the clear cone has been removed from the water treatment plant. This resulted in a 24' hole that will need to be filled with pea gravel and concrete to make it a useful building for housing equipment. There were 2 bids for the pea gravel:
Heuerman Brothers Trucking: $8,750.00
Roger Koelsch % MCS Trucking: $6,837.50
Commissioner Williams made a motion to accept the bid of $6,837.50 from Roger Koelsch % MCS Trucking. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Schabbing, Williams and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

CONCRETE FOR WATER PLANT BUILDING RENOVATION
Steve Ballinger also informed the council that the water plant renovation will require concrete for the wall and floor. There were 2 bids submitted for the concrete work:
F & C Concrete, LLC: $10,000.00
Ballinger Concrete Construction: $9,800.00
With little discussion, Commissioner Edwards made a motion to accept the bid from Ballinger Concrete Construction in the amount of $9,800.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Williams, Edwards and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

WATER TOWER INSPECTION
Treasurer Foor reminded the council that the water tower inspection was discussed at the last meeting, but it was not on the agenda. The EPA suggested having the inspection completed. Public works employee Ballinger informed the council that USG Water Solutions was in the area doing a project, and they offered to do the inspection at no charge to the city. The inspection was done per EPA requirements, but the city has not received the paperwork yet. The council tabled any further action until the pending paperwork is delivered.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

NO REPORT

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS

BIDS FOR FENCE BY SIDEWALK ON OAK AVENUE

No bids were submitted for the fence. Commissioner Edwards expressed concern that constructing the fence could create a liability for the city, so he does not support moving forward with it.

The council was in favor of getting current bids for patching the damaged sections of the sidewalk. It was the consensus that the approximately 24' section that the farmer crosses to access his field should be 8" thick concrete with rebar. The other section in need of repair is approximately 12' long. The council feels that 4" concrete with no rebar will be sufficient for this section. Superintendent Durbin will be instructed to get bids before the next meeting.

Commissioner Williams informed the council that the sidewalk on 7th Street that was damaged by the railroad crew has been repaired.

Commissioner Williams also informed the council that the deteriorating building at 142 W. 7th Street has been turned over to the city attorney. He is hoping something is done with it soon.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Williams, Edwards and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

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Brenda Evans, City Clerk