



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF NEOGA
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
533 CHESTNUT AVENUE, NEOGA, IL
SEPTEMBER 28, 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 Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm. Others present were City Administrator / Clerk Brenda Evans, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Engineer Lee Beckman, News Editor Billie Chambers, and Billy Belleau from Camp New Hope.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular and executive session minutes from September 14, 2026, Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Letizia. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to move into executive session at 7:01 p.m. for Litigation Section 2 (c)(11) – Pending, probable, or imminent litigation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Ayes, Commissioner Edwards, Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was reconvened at 7:44 pm. Those present for roll call were Commissioners Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Billy Belleau, a representative from Camp New Hope, told the council about Camp New Hope's gem for this area. Belleau also explained that Camp New Hope is run by donations from various means. They do not receive any Federal or State funding. This year they hosted over 200 campers, even though expenses have increased drastically. Mr. Belleau asked the city to place a line item on the budget for a yearly donation. The council thanked him for coming to the meeting.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -2-

SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MAYOR HELM

CUMBERLAND COUNTY CEO PROGRAM

Kevin Jansen discussed with the council the Cumberland County CEO program status for this school year. Jansen explained that four (4) students registered for the program this year; however, one had to drop the class, which left only three (3) students. After extensive discussion, the board decided to cancel the program until next year. Jansen said the program has had 52 students over the past six (6) years, and he is sure the program will continue to be a great success. Mr. Jansen asked the council for their continued support by paying the city's committed pledge of \$1,000. Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to pay the committed \$1,000. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RESOLUTION A Resolution Declaring Certain Real Property and Improvements Thereon as Being Dangerous and Unsafe (142 W. 7th Street, Neoga, Illinois)

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

ORDINANCE #1146-09-2026 An Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer of Real Estate to Michael Drennan

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

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-of-way. Schabbing said that she would like to have a scheduled pick up of all limbs that the residents place on the right-of-way. Commissioner Edwards 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. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Letizia. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, Commissioner Edwards. Motion carried 4-1.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -3-

SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER SCHABBING

MONTHLY BILLS

After reviewing the bill list, Commissioner Letizia questioned the invoice regarding the police department garage door repair. Treasurer Foor explained it was to adjust the overhead door for proper operation. Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to pay the monthly bills as presented in the amount of \$90,414.14. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER LETIZIA

UPDATES FROM MILANO & GRUNLOH

The council reviewed the monthly report written by Milano & Grunloh:

- City Hall Parking Lot – The project is complete, and a final walkthrough was done to verify there are no outstanding items. A final pay estimate is on the agenda for approval.
- DCEO Sanitary Sewer – The City received \$888,925 in DCEO grant funds for sanitary sewer relining/improvements. The bid opening is scheduled for November 19th at 10:00 a.m.

M&G INVOICE 33270

After reviewing the pay request, Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to pay the invoice in the amount of \$1,270. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PAY REQUEST #2 FOR CITY PARKING LOT

Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to pay the \$2,749.95 invoice. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

MOWING BEHIND GROVE AVENUE

The Council reviewed the mowing quote from Jarod McKay to mow behind Grove Avenue along the ditch. Commissioner Letizia made a motion to have Jarod McKay mow the property in the amount of \$1,000. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

SIDEWALK BIDS ON OAK AVENUE

Due to only one bid, this was tabled until the next meeting.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -4-

SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

SIDEWALK REPAIR BIDS ON 7TH STREET

Commissioner Letizia opened the bids for sidewalk repairs on West 7th Street. The bids were as follows:

F & C Concrete \$3,000

Ballinger Concrete \$ \$2,200.

Commissioner Letizia made a motion to award the bid to Ballinger Concrete in the amount of \$2,200. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Letizia, Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

BIDS FOR CONCRETE VAULT AT COMMUNITY CENTER

Commissioner Letizia opened the bids for new concrete vault at the Community Center as follows:

F & C Concrete \$3,800

Ballinger Concrete \$2,400

Commissioner Williams made a motion to award the bid to Ballinger Concrete in the amount of \$2,400.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Letizia. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

EAST 8TH STREET EXTENSION

Commissioner Edwards told the council that East 8th Street from Grove Avenue to the drainage ditch can be extended in the amount of \$15,500. This would include stripping the dirt off 6-8 inches deep, laying down 2 inches of rock, a layer of road pack, grading to level the road, rolling the road, and building a dirt berm at the end of the street. It was recommended that the road sit for at least one year to settle, come back and oil and chip later. Commissioner Schabbing made a motion to have Heuerman Trucking proceed with extending the road in the amount of \$15,500. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. Ayes, Commissioner Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, Williams, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

WATER TOWER INSPECTION

City Administrator / Clerk Evans told the council that the Illinois EPA has requested that the city have the water tower inspected. Evans said that Superintendent Durbin received two bids to inspect the tower as follows:

Maguire \$2,000

Pittsburgh Tank \$1,325

It was the consensus of the Council to have Pittsburgh Tank inspect the tower.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -5-

SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS

Commissioner Williams told the council that the Public Works Department needs to add some road pack to the south end of the concrete on Walnut Avenue between 5th & 6th Street.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Letizia. Ayes, Commissioner Williams, Schabbing, Edwards, Letizia, and Mayor Helm. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Brenda Evans, City Clerk