

City of Neoga

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEOGA, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS MUNICIPAL BUILDING 533 CHESTNUT FEBRUARY 5, 2001, 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mercer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: Commissioners Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer.

MINUTES

Held until next meeting for approval.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

APPOINTMENT OF CCDC REPRESENTATIVES

Discussion was held on the need to appoint two representatives to serve on the Board for Cumberland County Development Corporation. City Clerk Ehrhart reported that Gary Kuhns was willing to serve for another term. Council members are to compile a list of candidates for appointment at the next meeting.

PROPOSED CLOSING OF HIGHWAY/RAIL GRADE CROSSINGS IN THE NEOGA AREA

Lengthy discussion was held on the proposal from the Illinois Commerce Commission and Canadian National Railroad. They proposed the following: 1. Construction of a connecting road between Cemetery Road (950N/TR67) and Walnut Street (and the widening of Walnut Street to 6th Street) in Neoga, and construction of a connecting road between Walk Road (900N/TR85) and Strohl Road (850N/TR85A). 2. Closure of both the Cemetery Road and the Walk Road Crossings. 3. Installation of automatic flashing light signals and gates at the 850/TR85/Strohl Road crossing. 4. Circuitry upgrades at all crossings between 1300 N and US Route 45.

It was noted that the ICC had asked the City of Neoga, Cumberland County, and Neoga Township to submit cost estimates for construction of the new connecting roads. Mayor Mercer reported that he had spoken to Gary Krueger Cumberland County Engineer about this proposal. It was their feeling that they would rather see installation of automatic flashing light signals and gates at all crossing instead of closing of the roads. However, barring that at the very least, they would like to see connecting roads constructed between all three crossings and Walnut Street in Neoga. This would eliminate forcing residents to go south before they could come north or

forcing them to come into Neoga before they could go south. Additionally, since the Canadian National Railroad and the ICC are making this request it was felt that the expense of preparing cost estimates for construction of the roads should be borne by the Railroad and the ICC.

Motion: Commissioner Altman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to write a letter jointly with Cumberland County and Neoga Township to the Illinois Commerce Commission stating that since the ICC and Canadian National Railroad are the initiators of this project that it should be their responsibility to pay all costs involved. In addition, state that the governmental units would rather see the crossings left open and made safer with the installation of gates and signals. Ayes, Commissioners Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0

PUBLIC PROPERTY

REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT DOUGLAS

Superintendent Bill Douglas reported the following: 1. All safety equipment has been purchased and installed. 2. Held a meeting with the various Utility Companies about the construction of water/sewer lines out to the Industrial Park. Daily & Associates has begun the survey work for this project. 3. Reported that the plans for the replacement of the Lift Station at 9th and Cedar are progressing rapidly. It was noted that the property owner Ken Walk met with Daily & Associates Engineers and Douglas to review the proposed location of the lift station and Walk was very cooperative. City Attorney Braden has been instructed to prepare an easement for placement of the lift station. 4. When weather warms up will begin filling potholes.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Varner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Altman, to recess into executive session at 7:50 p.m., for the purpose of Personnel - Section 2 (c)(1) Compensation, and Section 2 (c)(5) Purchase of Real Estate. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

This meeting reconvened on motion by Commissioner Altman, seconded by Commissioner Varner. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Altman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to adjourn the regular City Council Meeting of February 5, 2001, at 9:15 p.m. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0

** The "Official Minutes" are on public record at the
City of Neoga Municipal Building - 533 Chestnut - Neoga, IL.
I, Bill Dugan, have scanned and formatted the minutes as presented to me
and ask forgiveness for any honest errors or typos that I may have made in the preparation.