

City of Neoga

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEOGA, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS MUNICIPAL BUILDING 533 CHESTNUT MARCH 19, 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. Commissioner Warner arrived at 7:40 p.m.

MINUTES

Commissioner Altman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner; to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 5, 2001. Yeas, Commissioners Altman, Varner; and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

AUDITOR

Motion: Commissioner Varner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Altman, to hire Gilbert, Metzger, and Madigan Accounting firm to conduct the annual audit for the City of Neoga for fiscal year 2000/2001. Yeas, Commissioners Altman, Varner, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0

DONATION TO POST PROM/POST GRADUATION

Motion: Commissioner Varner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Altman, to donate \$200 to Post Prom/Post Graduation. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0

FINANCE

BILLS

Commissioner Altman made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to approve monthly bills in the amount of \$34, 541.29. Yea, Commissioners Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0

TREASURER'S REPORT

The previous month statement of fund balances was given each Commissioner. After review of the same, Mayor Mercer ordered that the statement of fund balances be placed in the files of the City Clerk.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

DEMONSTRATION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM U.S. FILTER

Representatives from U.S. Filter were present to demonstrate the capabilities of hand-held readers for the water meters. It was noted that as water meters age they begin to be less and less efficient. Most older meters do not register the actual amount of water used. They explained that many City's see marked improvement toward getting a 100% return between water produced and registered water sold when a program is initiated to replace all old outdated meters. Council discussed the fact that the City has mostly Rockwell meters that the representatives from U.S. Filter said could be easily rebuilt with the new updates at a cheaper price than new ones. Superintendent Douglas said he would like to begin a program of updating with new meters and going to the hand-held meter readers with a touch gun. He explained that it is really hard on employees to get up and down on their knees to read the meters monthly. Douglas said the employees often have to dip water out of the meter in order to be able to read and in bad weather all of these things create very poor working conditions. Also discussed was the problem of finding the meter in snow cover. Consensus of the Council that a replacement program needs to be put into place. Superintendent Douglas will continue to pursue this matter. Also, U.S. Filter will send cost estimates for equipment and software.

PLACEMENT OF GRAVITY FLOW SEWER LINE

Council discussed two possible alternative locations for the new gravity flow sewer main on North Rt. 45 which will serve the Industrial Park and residential homes in that area. After discussion, it was the consensus that the best possible location would be to obtain easements from local landowners. Commissioner Warner will speak to the landowner about this possibility.

WATER RATE INCREASE

The City Clerk was instructed to have the City Attorney put the following water rate into Ordinance form. For the first 2000 gal. the rate will be \$10.50, then \$7.35 per 1000 gallons thereafter. Out of city limits rates will be increased proportionately.

STREET'S AND ALLEY'S

PURCHASE OF MOWER

Discussion was held on the need to replace the city's older Kobata mower. Superintendent Douglas will obtain some price quotes and bring back to next Council meeting.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

EARLY WARNING SIREN

Commissioner Altman told the Council that it was the decision of the ESDA people that the best location for the new early warning siren will be on the North East corner of the Park. It was the consensus that this would be the proper location for the siren and it will be installed as soon as possible after delivery of the siren.

SCHOOL ZONE SIGNS

After discussion Council instructed Superintendent Douglas to proceed with replacing the old school zone signs with the new Neon Green ones which would be more visible to motorists.

DRAINAGE PROBLEMS IN REGARD TO MOSQUITO CONTROL

Commissioner Altman reported that she had a meeting with Superintendent Douglas and Bob Althoff, who holds the City's license to spray chemicals, about the new strain of mosquito that has become a problem in the last couple of years. Althoff and Douglas said they felt some of the drainage problems over by the high school needed to be addressed in order to alleviate standing water which is a breeding ground for mosquitos. Superintendent Douglas will work on solutions to the drainage problem.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONTINUED

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Gerry Mattern told the Council that the two new Patrolman would be graduating from Police Training Institute on the 23rd of March. Also, Mattern said that there was problems with the hand-held radios saying that they were purchased in 1989. Mattern was instructed to get prices on replacing the hand-held radios and one mobile unit.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Warner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Altman, to adjourn the regular City Council Meeting of March 19, 2000, at 10:05 p.m. Yeas, Commissioners Warner, Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0

** 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.