

City of Neoga

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEOGA, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS MUNICIPAL BUILDING 533 CHESTNUT NOVEMBER 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, Warner, Modglin, and Mayor Mercer. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES

Commissioner Varner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Modglin, to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 5, 2001. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Modglin, and Mayor Mercer. Commissioner Warner abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0

Commissioner Modgim made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to approve the executive meeting minutes of November 5, 2001. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Modglin, and Mayor Mercer. Commissioner Warner abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

REQUEST FROM 911 BOARD

Justin Russell, representing the 911 Board, asked permission to put another antenna on the water tower to boost the signal from Cumberland to Neoga and back to Cumberland. Presently, some of the transmissions are not heard because of a lack of power. Global Tech from Effingham will install the antenna and will contact Superintendent Douglas when they are ready to proceed.

Motion: Commissioner Varner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Modglin, to allow the installation of the antenna on the water tower with the stipulation that Superintendent Douglas is notified. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Warner, Modglin, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0

FINANCE

MONTHLY BILLS

After reviewing the monthly bills Commissioner Modglin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to pay the bills in the amount of \$52,952.70. Yeas,

Commissioners Varner, Warner, Modglin, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried 4-0

LEVY ORDINANCE

After discussion on the 12% increase in the assessed evaluation on properties inside the Corporate Limits by the County Assessor, Commissioner Modglin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Warner, to revise the proposed levy and approve the levy at the same level as last year. Ordinance No.712-11-01 will remain at last year's level in the amount of \$137,050.00. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Warner, Modglin, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0

The City Council will be contacting Mike Walk County Board Chairman and the State of Illinois to discuss this 12% across the board increase that has been added to the tax burden of the citizens of the City of Neoga while the rest of the County did not receive any increase.

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

WATER BILL FOR BEAUTY SALON SPLIT ENDS

Council held lengthy discussion on the water leak and resulting bill that was incurred at the Beauty Salon owned by Mindy Hartke. Commissioner Warner said that he felt it would not be fair to make an adjustment to her water bill as a business owner and treat them any different than other residential property owners have been treated in the past. Additionally, a City Ordinance governs how water leaks are to be handled.

Commissioner Varner said that he felt there were special circumstances in this instance. He noted that the water had been on for over a year and was not read by City Employees. Superintendent Douglas said that he had gone to the business turned the water on to show Gary Hartke where the leak was and then turned the water off. Additionally, Douglas noted that is not the City's policy to read meters that are not supposed to be on. Mayor Mercer said he felt the property owner had possession of the property and was aware the water was on because it did not turn itself on.

Commissioner Varner made a motion to change the water bill to a minimum water & sewer charge for one year's time. This motion died for lack of a second. Motion: Commissioner Modglin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to take the sewer charge of \$302.74 off of the original bill of \$1133.50, then cut the remaining water bill in the amount of \$830.76 in half which would bring the entire bill to \$415.38. Yeas, Commissioner Modglin, Commissioner Varner, and Commissioner Warner. Nays, Mayor Mercer. Motion carried. 3-0

UPDATE CEDAR STREET PUMPING STATION

Superintendent Douglas reported that the Cedar Street pumping station construction is progressing very well. G.R.R. Construction is shooting for the week of the 26th for substantial completion. G.R.R. Construction will be making a change order request for a time extension for completion because of delays in receiving equipment needed for construction.

PURCHASED OF METERS

After discussion Commissioner Modglin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to allow Superintendent Douglas to move forward with purchase of 50 more rebuilt meters. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Warner, Modglin, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0

STREETS'S AND ALLEY'S

VARIOUS REPORTS

A. Commissioner Warner complimented Superintendent Douglas and his employees for an excellent job on the ditch behind Swengel O'Dell. Warner noted that the employees will also straw the alley and ditch.

B. Warner noted that the ditch behind Walk's Accounting is still on hold but he feels he is close to resolving this matter, hopefully before the next meeting.

REPORT FROM BUILDING INSPECTOR

Gary Kastl reported that he had just come from the Zoning Board hearing for a request by RoMor Construction for a Zoning Change for the property they have purchased from the American Legion. He noted the Zoning Board had granted the change from Residential to C-1. After discussion, Commissioner Warner asked if this request fit into the Comprehensive Plan of the City. Council said they would need detailed drawing or plan or, detailed explanation of what their intended use for this property would be before they would be comfortable considering a zoning change for this property. Gary Kastl will notify RoMor of the required information.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Modglin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to move into executive session at 8:20 p.m., for the purpose of Section 2(c)(1) Personnel - compensation and performance. Yeas, Commissioners Modglin, Varner, Warner, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

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

ADJOURN

Commissioner Warner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Modglin, to adjourn the regular meeting of November 19, 2001 at 8:55 p.m. Motion carried, via voice vote.

** 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.