

- Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month.
- Patricia D. Ehrhart is the City Clerk and prepares the minutes. **
- Contact # 217-895-3654

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF NEOGA, CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MUNICIPAL BUILDING 533 CHESTNUT
MARCH 7, 2002, 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, Altman, and Mayor Mercer.

PUBLIC INPUT ON PROPOSED WEAN TO FINISH HOG FACILITY

Mayor Mercer opened the meeting to allow public input. Tom Strohl said that on behalf of the CURL Committee he would like to request that the City Council make a motion to direct the City Council to write a letter to Joe Hampton the Director of the Illinois Department of Agriculture in a similar fashion to a sample letter provided. Additionally, CURL requested that the Council make a motion to request that the County Board, and the Cumberland County Health Department also pass a resolution and/or send a letter of non support for a hog facility of this type being located within 1 ½ miles of Neoga's or any Corporate Limits.

Commissioner Warner reported that when he appeared before the Shelby County Board they had agreed to appoint a committee to conduct a study. The purpose of the study was to give direction back to the Shelby County Board about the location of these types of facilities and the possible need for zoning change. It was noted by the Council that it is their goal to work with Shelby County to get them to amend their Zoning for the 1 ½ miles around Neoga's perimeter to Residential Estates which is the zoning designation for Neoga's 1 ½ mile extraterritorial zoning in Cumberland County.

Mayor Mercer explained that Chris Apke wants to locate his facility here because his ground is already saturated with nitrogen etc. Commissioner Warner stated that he had spoken to several very professional farmers who said if the effluent is knifed into the ground properly you do not get that smell. He noted they maintained it is more of a management of the application process. However, no one oversee the management of this process. Several questions were asked by those in attendance, such as, has anyone approached O'Neill about this situation and asked him to relocate his own sale barn facility. It was noted the City would not take that approach. Mayor Mercer explained that it is this one facility that the City wants to keep focused on, that the Council has

no interest in pursuing any other issue. Mayor Mercer said if the City needs to take legal action against Apke and O'Neill to prevent the location of this particular wean to finish facility it will be done. However, it needs to be done very professionally.

Discussion was held by the Council on the need to get clarification of the City's legal control over the 1 ½ mile extraterritorial zoning. Can we control spreading of effluents in the 1 ½ mile area. The City Clerk is to contact Illinois Municipal League and get clarification on this issue and if City or County zoning takes precedent.

CURL Committee asked the Council to make a motion to go ahead with letters to Cumberland County Board, Health Department, and the City's letter. Commissioner Warner stated he felt the City had already made that commitment and no motion needed to be made. Mayor Mercer called for a motion. No motion was made. The City Clerk was instructed to call and get Commissioner Warner put on the agenda for the next Cumberland County Board meeting.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Modglin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Warner, to adjourn the special meeting of March 7, 2002, at 8:23 p.m. Yeas, Commissioners Warner, Modglin, Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0

** 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.