



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS MUNICIPAL BUILDING 533 CHESTNUT
FEBRUARY 3, 2003, 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Gary A. Mercer and the pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Altman, Varner, Warner, Modglin, and Mayor Mercer.

MINUTES

Commissioner Varner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Modglin, to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 20, 2003. Yeas, Commissioners Modglin, Varner, and Mayor Mercer. Commissioners Warner, and Altman abstained. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**ORDINANCE NO. 727-02-03 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF
PERSONAL PROPERTY.**

Commissioner Modglin made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to approve Ordinance No. 727-01-03. Yeas, Commissioners Modglin, Warner, Varner, Altman, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0

SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Lengthy discussion was held on the possible sale of city property located adjacent to and north of Neoga Package Liquor Store, and the parcel formerly owned by the Illinois Central Railroad located in the 800 Block of Chestnut Ave. Mayor Mercer said that although he had originally voted to put this property up for sale after reflecting upon the matter he felt the city should retain ownership of the property located on Chestnut. Commissioner Warner agreed, and said he felt it was wise to control this property to help locate the proper type of business on a main street in Neoga. After discussion it was the consensus of the Council to hold off on selling either properties for now. Commissioner Varner will contact the Fire Department to see if they are interested in the property with the old storage shed adjacent to the Liquor Store since it is also adjacent to the Fire Department.

FINANCE

KTD Inc., was present to address the Council. They had read where Neoga was going to consider a computer maintenance contract on tonight's agenda. The explained that they have been providing computer & programming related services in the Effingham and surrounding area

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1998. KTD Inc., sells and services Dell, IBM, and Toshiba. It was noted that the City had just purchased three new computers and they are under warranty with their present Computer maintenance company for one year. The City Council told KTD Representatives they would be glad to take their company into consideration in the future.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

SUPERINTENDENT HAGERSTROM REPORT

Superintendent Hagerstrom reported on the following:

1. Joint meeting between the pump manufacturing firm and G.R.R. Construction about the new lift station by the trailer park. Some concern was expressed over when new pumps come on line that the increased pumping ability could cause some manholes to blow. Commissioner Warner said that the City will need to ask Daily & Associates Engineers what their initial assessment of this matter was. Warner noted that we will see additional flows as the city grows. He noted that we have an old system, like many communities, and we will have to address it as we go forward.

2. Discussion was held on the problem of water meters being under trailers at the trailer park and the difficulty which arises when employees must crawl under trailers to shut water off or turn on. Hagerstrom explained that he had to get under a trailer today to shut off water, which meant he had to take underpinning off to get under the trailer and he expressed concern if something would happen to the underpinning or pipes freeze etc. It was noted that water meters cannot be obstructed in any way under City Ordinance. It was discussed that when the Trailer Park was built trailers were mostly 60 feet, now many are 80 feet or more. Therefore, when they pull a new trailer in they cover the water meters. Motion: Commissioner Varner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Modglin, that the trailer park should be notified that if city employees have to get under a trailer three times to turn water on or off then the water will be shut off permanently until the meter is moved out from under the trailer. They will not be allowed to place a trailer onto an empty lot until meter is moved so it will not be obstructed. Additionally, all sewers risers must be capped immediately. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Warner, Modglin, Altman, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0

3. Hagerstrom told the Council that he has set up a schedule for the city employees to attend pesticide spraying training. Additionally, John Clinton is now attending a sewer class at Lake Land College.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

Discussion was held on several properties owned by Greg White that are in need of demolition

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clean up. It was noted that the City Attorney is working on this matter.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Varner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Altman, to move into executive session to discuss Section 2 (c)(1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. Yeas, Commissioners Varner, Warner, Altman, Modglin, and Mayor Mercer. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

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

ADJOURN

Commissioner Varner made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Modglin, to adjourn the regular meeting of February 3, 2003, at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried via voice vote.

Gary A. Mercer, Mayor

Patricia D. Ehrhart, MMC, City Clerk