



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS MUNICIPAL BUILDING 533 CHESTNUT
SEPTEMBER 15, 2003, 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Mayor pro-tem Warner and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Varner, Russell, Stewart and Mayor pro-tem Warner. Others present were City Clerk Patricia Ehrhart, Deputy Treasurer Diana Foor, Deputy Clerk Brenda Evans, Alan Baker, Justin Russell, Nancy Lawson, Stan Hagerstrom, Jeff Morrison, Joe Wiltermood, Joe Williamson, and Jonathon McKenzie.

MINUTES

Commissioner Russell made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to approve the regular and executive meeting minutes of September 2, 2003. Yeas, Commissioners Russell, Varner, Stewart and Mayor pro-tem Warner. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CCDC

Cumberland County Development Coordinator, Jonathon McKenzie, informed the council that all the Cumberland County communities now have Revolving Loan Funds. However, to date, no marketing brochure for the communities has been available, so he has designed a pamphlet for each community and is distributing them through local banks, cities, newspapers etc. CCDC also received a tourism matching grant for development of a tourism brochure. On October 2, CCDC will be holding an evening meeting in place of their usual morning meeting. It will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the 1st National Bancshares building in Toledo. Additionally, McKenzie announced that the Cumberland County Board has appropriated their \$6,000 contribution to CCDC for this next fiscal year.

PEACE MEAL

A Peace Meal representative called and asked for a yearly donation of \$1,250. After a brief discussion on how this organization helps the elderly, a motion was made by Commissioner Varner, seconded by Commissioner Stewart, to donate \$1250 to this organization. Yeas, Commissioner Varner, Stewart, Russell, and Mayor pro-tem Warner. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

FINANCE

Commissioner Russell made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Stewart to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$33,794.83. Ayes, Commissioners Stewart, Varner, Russell, and Mayor Pro-tem Warner. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

The treasurer's report was given to the council and after review was okayed. Mayor Pro-tem Warner ordered the financial report to be placed in the files of the City Clerk. Mayor Pro-tem Warner also informed the Council that the City has received their first tax installment of \$78,536.36.

PUBLIC PROPERTY

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Superintendent of Public Works Stan Hagerstrom reported on the following:

1. A meeting was held with Daily & Associates to discuss the 6th Street MFT road improvement. Daily's had a core sample done and a FWD (failing weight device) was used to analyze the sub base. The results showed the base was 1" of oil and chip and 6" of small aggregate and cement. It was recommended that the City rip out the current road and not reuse any of the current material other than the gutters. Also informed the council that Cumberland County will help with the cost of this project because they own the road from 6th and Walnut to Trowbridge road.
2. At this time, the City does not have a class 2 waste water operator, however, we can contract with Joe Williamson, a class 1 waste water operator for Effingham. This agreement will have to be approved by EPA.

After reviewing, a motion was made by Commissioner Varner, seconded by Commissioner Russell, to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract, that was approved by the City Attorney, with Joe Williamson for waste water operator. Ayes, Commissioner Russell, Varner, Stewart, and Mayor Pro-Tem Warner. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

STREET'S AND ALLEY'S

Norm Lockwood ask if they could close 6th street from Oak Avenue to Locust for an auction on the 20th of September. It was the consensus of the council to allow him to close from RT #45 to the alley from noon til 3:00 p.m.

RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to go into executive session for Personnel - Section 2 (c) (1) - employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance; and Sale or Lease of Real Estate - Section 2 (c) (6) - Limited to actual setting of price for sale or lease of public property.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Russell, Stewart and Mayor pro-tem Warner. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting reconvened on a motion from Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Commissioner Russell. Those present for roll call were: Commissioners Russell, Varner, Stewart, and Mayor pro-tem Warner.

HIRING OF EMPLOYEE

Commissioner Varner made a motion to hire Joe Wiltermood for the public works department at \$11.00 per hour. Seconded by Commissioner Russell. Ayes Commissioner Varner, Russell, Stewart, Mayor Pro-tem Warner. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

SALE OF PROPERTY

Commissioner Russell made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to sell Lot 14 of Bacon & Jennings Subdivision for \$4,000, which is 80% of the appraised value of (\$5,000), to Grace United Methodist Church, with the stipulation that Grace United Methodist Church must remove the building within 60 days. Also to lease Lot 7 & 8 of Bacon & Jennings Subdivision for \$10 per year for a 5 year term, with an option to buy for \$4,000, which is 80% of the appraised value of (\$5,000) at anytime during this agreement. Also to lease Lot 15 of Bacon & Jennings Subdivision for \$10 per year for a 5 year term, with an option to buy for \$4,000 which is 80% of the appraised value of (\$5,000) at anytime during this agreement, however, the City of Neoga will hold an easement for the coin sales. All leases can be renewed upon agreement by both parties. Ayes, Commissioner Stewart, Varner, Russell, and Mayor pro-tem Warner. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Russell made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Varner, to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:08 p.m. Yeas, Commissioner, Varner, Russell, Stewart, and Mayor pro-tem Warner. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Gary A. Mercer, Mayor

Patricia D. Ehrhart, MMC, City Clerk