



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT
APRIL 16, 2007, AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Russell, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Modglin, Varner, Mayor Russell, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were Superintendent Stan Hagerstrom, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Sara Layton with CCDC, Debby Pointdexter, Doug Deters, Ben Bland, and Greg Cook.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from April 2, 2007, Commissioner Modglin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Modglin, Varner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

Commissioner Stewart arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Commissioner Warner arrived at 7:08 p.m.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NEOGA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Debby Pointdexter told the Council that the school board has been discussing the different solutions for the high school parking lot. According to Pointdexter, Howell Asphalt has told the board that until the drainage problems are resolved, any asphalt or oil and chip work done to the parking lot would only be wasting time and money. Doug Deters explained that if the parking lot was paved, it would make the water run off at a faster pace, and could cause additional problems. Commissioner Warner said that the city could increase the size of the culvert that goes across the road into the ditch to the south of 7th street and that may help with the problem. Superintendent Hagerstrom said that he checked the ditch today and there was no water currently standing in the ditches although the area received rain over the weekend. It was the consensus of the Council to have Superintendent Hagerstrom review the water flow and get back with the school in the next few days.

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CCDC

Sara Layton gave the Council a list of the items that most prospective companies require when they are looking to expand or relocate. Infrastructure is the number one request, which includes three phase power, natural gas, water, and sewer. According to Layton, Neoga has qualified in a number of areas; however, recently the companies are looking for existing buildings.

Layton also informed the Council that Cumberland County will be participating in the Relay for life program for the first time ever. It will be held on July 27th from 6p.m. to 7am. The organizers have set a goal of 15 teams and at last count there are 31 teams signed up.

ZONING BOARD APPOINTMENT

City Clerk Evans told the Council that the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning has recommended that Bob Schwindt be appointed to the zoning board to replace Gary Freeland who moved out of the area. Commissioner Warner stated that he felt Schwindt would be an asset to the board. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Varner made a motion to appoint Bob Schwindt to the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner. Ayes, Commissioner Warner, Stewart, Varner, Modglin, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion Carried. 5-0.

FINANCE

BILLS

The Council reviewed the presented bills for the month of March. Commissioner Modglin mentioned that the bills were a little higher than normal because of the down payment on the early warning siren, and the down payment on the cabinets. With no other discussion, Commissioner Modglin made a motion to pay the bills totaling \$56,659.52. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Stewart, Varner, Modglin, Warner and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was presented. With no objections heard, Mayor Russell ordered the financial report to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

L.E.A.D.S. PAYMENT

Commissioner Stewart made a motion to pay the annual L.E.A.D.S. payment for the use of the system by the police department. Commissioner Modglin told the council that although the police department has IWIN in the squad cars; the sheriff's office still does the dispatching for the police department. After a brief discussion, commissioner Modglin made a motion to pay the \$1,791. The motion was seconded by Commissioner

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PUBLIC PROPERTY

Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Modglin, Warner, Stewart, Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

SUPERINTENDENT HAGERSTROM REPORT

Superintendent Hagerstrom asked the Council if anyone had any questions regarding the written reported that was given to them. Hagerstrom told the council that the next step in the Hartke lift station was to order a title policy for the lift station. Commissioner Warner asked Hagerstrom what his plans were for Elm Street where the new water line was laid. Hagerstrom said that he was planning on leaving it until more traffic drove on the road and packed it down better. Warner told Hagerstrom to dig out about 12” of dirt and put CA6 rock back in the trench until it can be oiled and chipped.

10th STREET DITCH

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Stewart made a motion to tile 1000 feet from the drainage ditch to the concrete headwall along Lake Avenue paid for with MFT funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Modglin. Ayes, Warner, Stewart, Varner, Modglin, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Foth Infrastructure & Environment engineer Greg Cook also reminded the Council that they would have to acquire an easement from the Carpenter Construction Company who owns the ground. Commissioner Varner made a motion to acquire the easement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner. Ayes, Commissioner Stewart, Varner, Modglin, Warner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

HARTKE SUBDIVISION

Superintendent Hagerstrom updated the Council on the progress of the Hartke lift station. Commissioner Warner told Hagerstrom to set the pump station in a 15’ area. After a very brief discussion, Commissioner Stewart made a motion to order a title policy on the True property for the lift station. Motion was seconded by commissioner Varner. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Modglin, Warner, Stewart, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PAY REQUEST FROM FOTH

After reviewing the pay request from Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC., for services rendered on the Phase 2 Excess Transport project, Commissioner Varner made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$5,500. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner. Ayes, Commissioner Modglin, Warner, Stewart, Varner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

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WATERLINE EAST OF OAK AVENUE

Greg Cook gave a cost estimate for the replacement of the water line east of Oak Avenue to help with the rust issues that is affecting the Neoga Coin Wash and residents on that water line. Cook explained that the alley has a sewer line, a storm sewer, and a water line that will have to be dealt with. This will be a big project so the work will need to be completed by an outside firm. Superintendent Hagerstrom explained that the line has not had any breaks on it, however, they are continuing with the routine flushing. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Warner made a motion to sign a Memorandum of Agreement for the prep work on the waterline replacement. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stewart. Ayes, Commissioner Warner, Stewart, Varner, Modglin, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PHASE II SEWER CONSTRUCTION

A brief discussion was held regarding the permit application for the sewer plant. Commissioner Modglin made a motion giving the Mayor permission to sign the permit application. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stewart. Ayes, Stewart, Varner, Modglin, Warner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

STREETS AND ALLEYS

6th STREET RESURFACING

Greg Cook updated the Council on the 6th Street resurfacing project. The current estimates are \$430,000 for the project. A lengthy discussion was held regarding an intergovernmental agreement as well as one for Walnut Avenue. It was the consensus of council to put together an agreement that states the city of Neoga will do the daily maintenance on the road and when the road needs repaired after 10 -12 years, the County will resurface the road. Ben Bland, Cumberland County engineer, will bring example drafts to the City. Bland said that the project will take about 60 days to complete.

RESURFACE EAST 6TH STREET

Commissioner Modglin asked Ben Bland if the County would be able to help us resurface east 6th street when the time comes and Bland said that they would.

WALNUT AVENUE

A brief discussion was held regarding Walnut Avenue and the Council asked when it might be repaired. Ben Bland said that it would be milled and overlay within the next 24 months.

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2007 MFT PROJECT

Commissioner Warner informed the Council that he has worked with Greg Cook and they have put together a very aggressive project for this year. The estimated cost will be \$190,000. Commissioner Warner made a motion to pass the presented project contingent on adding the tile for 10th Street.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stewart. Ayes, Commissioner Modglin, Warner, Stewart, Varner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Commissioner Stewart said that she is hopeful that the Council will continue to make progress on the old business that the Council has been dealing with including 451 Walnut Avenue, early warning siren, and citywide cleanup.

CLOSING REMARKS

Commissioner Warner said that in the past 16 years a lot has been accomplished, like the industrial park, Reliant Energy, two new subdivisions, old home demolished and new homes built. Warner gave credit to Vernon Greensons, Larry Hymes, and Pat Ehrhart along with a council that didn't work as one person but as a team to accomplish everything that has been done.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Modglin made a motion to adjourn into executive session for personnel – section 2 (c) (1)- Employee hiring, firing, compensation, discipline and performance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner. Ayes, Warner, Stewart, Varner, Modglin, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL

The meeting reconvened at 11:00 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Stewart, and seconded by Commissioner Modglin. Those present for roll call were: Commissioner Stewart, Varner, Modglin, Warner, and Mayor Russell.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Modglin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Warner. Ayes, Commissioner Modglin, Warner, Stewart, Varner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Jay Russell, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date