



**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT
APRIL 2, 2007, AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Russell; the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Modglin, Varner, Stewart, and Mayor Russell. Others present were Superintendent Stan Hagerstrom, City Treasurer Diana Foor, Foth representative Greg Cook, and Brian Anderson from the Neoga Family Restaurant.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from March 19, 2007, Commissioner Varner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Modglin. Ayes, Commissioners Modglin, Varner, Stewart, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CCDC

After a brief discussion, the council decided to table paying the \$1000 dues and \$5000 stipend to CCDC. Commissioner Stewart again requested that Sara Layton compile a list of items that prospective businesses are looking for and what the City is lacking. The council asked Layton for this information previously, but has not received anything yet. The council then decided to give Layton a detailed list of items that they would like her to provide to them. A list of organizations that CCDC belongs to and a flyer to hand out to welcome businesses and people to Neoga are two of the items that the council mentioned. It was also suggested that Layton be invited to spend a day in Neoga with the City Clerk visiting area businesses.

Commissioner Warner arrived at 7:16 p.m.

VANDALISM

Brian Anderson, owner of the Neoga Family Restaurant, was at the meeting to voice his concern over the recent vandalisms in Neoga. He stated that his business has recently been broken into on three different occasions. He would like to see more police protection on the weekends. The council acknowledged the situation, and after a lengthy discussion decided to take several steps to try to curb the problem. They decided to:

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- Inform the Sheriff Department and the State Police of the problem and ask for their help in patrolling if they have officers in the area
- Instruct officers to patrol more at night and enforce curfew times
- Publish an article in the local newspaper asking every citizen for help in watching for abnormal activity. Curfew times would be listed in this article
- Enlist the help of a part time officer for additional weekend patrol
- Enforce the Neighborhood Watch program. Ask Modern Woodsmen, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts for help. Commissioner Stewart volunteered to be the chairperson for this program

FINANCE

No report was given

PUBLIC PROPERTY

SUPERINTENDENT HAGERSTROM REPORT

Superintendent Hagerstrom gave the Council a report regarding the following:

- Discussed bids for generators for the City. Commissioner Modglin suggested holding all bids and then making a spreadsheet with the results. A decision would be made after all bids are submitted
- TGM elevator hired John Belden to cut trees. The City helped clean up and haul away the branches
- Elm Street was touched up
- Employees are hauling brush and doing general spring cleanup work

CLEARWELL BAFFLING

Larry Johnson from Foth Environmental sent a design review letter to the IEPA asking them to review the City's options for the clear well. The first option is to install curtain baffling in the existing clear well. The second option is to install an additional precast concrete clear well with baffling.

PAY REQUEST

Two pay requests from Foth Environmental were presented to the council. The first was for Dogwood Drainage work in the amount of \$560.25. The second was for changing.

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from dry to wet feed chemicals at the water plant in the amount of \$7,972.93. Commissioner Varner made a motion to approve the pay requests for a total of \$8,533.18. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioners Modglin, Varner, Stewart, Warner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

STREETS AND ALLEYS

DOGWOOD DRAINAGE

Greg Cook from Foth reported that the survey has been completed and a plat is being put together. Cook said that the documents will be ready for Walk's to sign within 2 to 4 weeks. The council decided it would be best to pay crop damage and proceed with the work now as opposed to waiting until the fall when the crops are harvested. Commissioner Warner stated he would like to see the paperwork completed within 2 weeks and urged Cook to prioritize it.

HARTKE SUBDIVISION

Commissioner Warner stated that progress is being made on this project. A representative from Foth Environmental is writing a legal description of the property. Warner felt that a lift station is the best option.

10TH STREET DITCH RELOCATION

Superintendent Hagerstrom reviewed prices for culvert and supplies for the ditch relocation project. The council agreed that tiling the ditch was a better option than proceeding with eminent domain. Commissioner Varner requested a time line as to when the project will be started. Commissioner Warner suggested starting on the first 1,000 feet and working towards the water plant. He also suggested installing an additional manhole on the west end. Greg Cook stated that the money for this project can come from MFT funds. Dean Drainage was the low bid on the supplies. However, this item was not on the agenda, so action will be taken at the next meeting.

2007 MFT PROGRAM

Greg Cook handed out a preliminary 2007 MFT program. Cook recommended meeting with Ben Bland to find out what the county is planning for 6th Street. City Clerk Evans will invite Bland to the next council meeting. After reviewing the 2007 MFT plan, Commissioner Warner suggested spending down to \$40,000 in the MFT fund. He, along with Superintendent Hagerstrom and Greg Cook, will come up with a street improvement priority list to be presented at the next meeting.

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SIDEWALKS

The council gave Superintendent Hagerstrom the directive to compile a list of areas that need sidewalks replaced. Some areas mentioned were west 6th Street by the Bob Meek residence, the brick area west of Carruther's IGA, and the brick area near the Post Office. Hagerstrom will present a list to the council at the next meeting.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

EARLY WARNING SIREN

City Treasurer Foor reported that the down payment check for the early warning siren has been mailed. Commissioner Stewart requested that Foor follow up to find out when the siren will be delivered.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Varner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Stewart. Ayes, Commissioners Modglin, Stewart, Varner, Warner, and Mayor Russell. Nays, none. Motion carried. 5-0.

Jay Russell, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date