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**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF NEOGA HELD IN
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT
AUGUST 8, 2011 AT 7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Modglin, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Hartke, Groves, Lindley, Mayor Wayne Modglin, and City Treasurer Foor. Others present were Superintendent Tom Helm, and Denny Anderson from Camp New Hope.

MINUTES

After reviewing the regular session minutes from July 25, 2011, Commissioner Lindley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioners Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CAMP NEW HOPE REQUEST

Denny Anderson, Chairperson of the Executive Board at Camp New Hope, addressed the council to request the use of the City's vertical mower. Anderson explained that the mower would be helpful in cutting the weeds and brush along the fence line at the camp. Their money is tight, and State funding has been slashed, so they would appreciate the City's help. Commissioner Groves made a motion to allow City employees to use the vertical mower during regular business hours to help mow the fence line at Camp New Hope. Commissioner Hartke seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioners Groves, Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Mr. Anderson stated that he appreciates the cooperation of the City and hopes that the Camp and the City can work together on future projects.

FINANCE, COMMISSIONER GROVES

TREASURER'S REPORT

After reviewing the treasurer report, Mayor Modglin ordered the financial report to be placed into the files of the City Clerk.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -2-

AUGUST 8, 2011

PUBLIC PROPERTY, COMMISSIONER KEPP

PAY REQUEST – FOTH ENVIRONMENTAL

The Council was presented with a pay request from Foth Environmental for the 2011 Year Round Disinfection Exemption Request in the amount of \$1,830.93. Commissioner Lindley made a motion to pay the request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 12-8-11 Procurement Policy

After reviewing the policy, Commissioner Groves made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 13-8-11 Policy on the Prohibition of the Use of Excessive Force

After reviewing the policy, Commissioner Groves made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Hartke, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

ORDINANCE NO. 820-08-11 An Ordinance Establishing An Equal Employment Policy Including Provisions To Benefit Individuals With Disabilities

After reviewing the ordinance, Commissioner Groves made a motion to accept the ordinance as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 14-8-11 Code of Conduct

After reviewing the resolution, Commissioner Groves made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, Groves, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-8-11 Policy Regarding Sexual Harassment in Employment

After reviewing the resolution, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Groves, Lindley, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -3-

AUGUST 8, 2011

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“IKE” DISASTER RECOVERY GRANT ENGINEER QUALIFICATIONS

City Treasurer Foor informed the Council that 16 engineering firms submitted applications to the City of Neoga for assistance in engineering services for the City’s recently awarded IKE Disaster Recovery Grant. City Clerk Evans and Foor reviewed each application at length and filled out the Engineering Services Qualifications Rating Sheets for each one. The council was given these scores. Treasurer Foor commented on the difficulty of the scoring process because there were many highly qualified applicants. Phoenix Consulting Engineers, LTD. had the highest score. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Groves made the motion to accept the application of Phoenix Consulting Engineers, LTD. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Groves, Hartke, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

CEMETERY TREE REMOVAL

M & E Spray Service owner Lamar Embry submitted a verbal bid of \$500 to remove a dead tree at the cemetery. Commissioner Hartke questioned the location of the tree. He stated that he has driven through the cemetery, but was not sure about which tree Embry was talking about. Treasurer Foor was instructed to contact Embry to get the exact location of the tree. The council decided to table the decision until Commissioner Hartke had a chance to look at the tree.

Mr. Embry also inquired if the City would allow him to apply Roundup around grave markers. He said it would be applied evenly with a 4” roller so that it would be uniform. At this time, the Council was not in favor of using Roundup, but they decided to get feedback from the community. This will be added to the next agenda, and a vote will be taken at that time.

STREETS AND ALLEYS, COMMISSIONER HARTKE

2011 MFT RESOLUTION

After a lengthy discussion regarding the 2011 MFT Resolution, Commissioner Hartke made a motion to accept the resolution with a cap of \$85,000. The resolution did not include the cost of oiling and chipping the alley behind the elementary school, but this could be added at a later time without going over the \$85,000 limit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Groves. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Groves, Lindley, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

The council instructed Commissioner Kepp or City Clerk Evans to talk to Neoga School Superintendent Charles Castle or possibly attend the Neoga School Board meeting to request help with paying for the work that will be done to the alley behind the elementary school.

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

PAGE -4-

AUGUST 8, 2011

The council asked Commissioner Hartke to talk with Total Grain Management (TGM) about helping to fund road repairs on 4th Street from RT 45 to Locust Avenue and south of the Nickel-plate Railroad to the south end of the City's property. In a discussion earlier this year, the management of TGM agreed to work with the City on road repairs if the City would work with them on keeping roads open to truck traffic.

SUPERINTENDENT HELM REPORT

Superintendent Helm handed out 3 quotes to the Council for the sidewalk replacement on 6th Street. He also asked the Council to consider going back to buying fuel in bulk. He distributed a proposal from Effingham Clay Service Company. Lastly, he inquired about the status of the backhoe purchase. None of these items were on the agenda, so the Council will consider his input, discuss them, and possibly make decisions at the next scheduled council meeting.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, COMMISSIONER LINDLEY

Commissioner Lindley thanked Helm for getting the brush pile on Shaffer Avenue burned. He commented that the property at 811 Shaffer is overgrown with weeds again. The council instructed Foor to get a quote from M&E Spray Service for mowing the property.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Groves to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartke. Ayes, Commissioner Hartke, Lindley, Groves, and Mayor Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 4-0.

Howard W. Modglin, Mayor

Brenda Evans, City Clerk

Date