

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF NEOGA HELD IN  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 533 CHESTNUT  
OCTOBER 6, 2008, AT 7:00 P.M.**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Pro-tem Modglin and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Those present were: Commissioners Lindley, Varner, Mayor Pro-tem Modglin, and City Clerk Evans. Others present were City Treasurer Diana Foor, Public Works Superintendent Stan Hagerstrom, Brian French, Brad Foor, Ed Zimmer, Deedra Kline, Lisa Malone, Vernon Greeson, and Foth Infrastructure representative Matt Johnson.

## **MINUTES**

After reviewing the regular session minutes from September 15, Commissioner Varner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioners Lindley, Varner, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

### COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD PRESENTATION

Mayor Pro-tem Modglin presented the Community Spirit Award to Vernon Greeson for all the work he has done in the Community. Greeson not only retired from the City of Neoga as the public works superintendent, but he also was a volunteer fireman for a number of years. Modglin said that the City appreciates all the work Greeson has done in the past and continues to do today. Modglin also noted that Greeson has put together all the community pictures and handmade the frames located in the back room of the municipal building.

### FENCE VARIANCE – GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Ed Zimmer discussed with the Council about placing a fence to the north of the Grace United Methodist Church. Zimmer explained that the church would like to enclose the property to the north of the church so that kids can play in the yard as well as create an area for outdoor weddings. Zimmer told the Council that the area where they would like to place the fence is on the City's property. Commissioner Lindley recommended that the City lease the 8' to the west of the coin water sales building to the Grace United Methodist Church for \$1 per year. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to lease the land to the church; however, since it was not on the agenda, formal action will be taken at the next meeting.

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PERSONAL SIGNS ON RT #45

Brian French told the Council that his daughter is on a United States Gymnastics and tumbling team. She puts in numerous hours per week practicing, and she has set four goals for herself. One of those goals was to be a national champion. French said that she has been state champion four times, and this year she is national champion in tumbling. French is here on behalf of his daughter and is asking to have a sign placed along RT. #45. He has checked with IDOT, and under the current guidelines IDOT will only put signs up that are accomplished through the schools. French said according to IDOT, the city would have to purchase and maintain the sign and complete the permit application. After discussion, the Council told Mr. French that we would look into it and let him know.

4 WAY STOP AT 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET

City Clerk Evans told the Council that the office has received phone calls asking that the 4 way stop at RT. #45 and 7<sup>th</sup> Street remain a 4 way stop when the 6<sup>th</sup> street construction project is complete. Neoga Police Chief said that it is allowing pedestrians to cross the road with less problems on their way to and from school. The consensus of the Council was to speak to IDOT and ask that the 4 way stop stay at that location.

DEEDRA KLINE

Neoga resident Deedra Kline informed the Council that on September 22, 2008 she had an incident at her residence located at 1030 US RT #45 Lot 105 Neoga Estates. Kline explained that due to her not working at this time, she was unable to pay her CIPS bill, and they arrived to turn her power off. She is on a CPAT machine for breathing at night, and according to her doctor they are not able to shut it off. When she explained this to the CIPS employee he left and then returned later with Neoga police chief Gerald Mattern and Cumberland County Sheriff Deputy Steve Maroon. According to Kline, a confrontation developed because her power was getting shut off and she was concerned about her health. During the confrontation, Kline accused Mattern of putting a bruise on her arm when she went to talk to the CIPS employee. Kline said the bruise was so bad that it hurt for days after it happened. Mayor Pro-tem Modglin said that the Council would review the video tape that Chief Mattern had and would take appropriate action.

WEB PAGE DESIGN – SDS

SDS representative Brad Foor informed the Council that they have a new product that will allow people to manage their WebPages easily. They are offering the city a one time discount. Foor said he would forward some web pages for the Council to view.

**FINANCE**

No report was given.

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**PUBLIC PROPERTY**

Superintendent Hagerstrom handed out his report and allowed the Council to review it. Hagerstrom explained some of the problems with the water lines on 6<sup>th</sup> street. He said everything else was going okay.

DOGWOOD DRAINAGE

Hagerstrom said that he did a final walk though and found a pile of brush on the new grass. Evans contacted the owner to remove the brush pile and to not burn on the new grass.

SEWER LINE QUOTE

Matt Johnson reminded the Council that due to the cost of the Phase II Sewer project, the Council deleted the sewer telescan of the sewer lines. Johnson explained the quote that was received for the telescan of the lines and felt that this was good money spent. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Varner made a motion to proceed with the TeleScan of the sewer lines with a cost not to exceed \$9500. Commissioner Lindley seconded the motion. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Varner, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

PHASE II SEWER PAY REQUEST

A pay request was received from Foth Infrastructure for services on the Phase II sewer project. After reviewing the request, Commissioner Varner made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$3,168.48. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

PHASE II SEWER CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER

After reviewing the change order, Commissioner Varner made a motion to accept the change order #2 in the amount of \$4796.97. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Varner, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Motion carried. 3-0.

PAY REQUEST FOR PHASE II SEWER CONSTRUCTION

After reviewing the pay request from Curry Construction, Commissioner Varner made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$47,090.58. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

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CDAP GRANTS

Matt Johnson informed the Council that Della Perrone is currently looking for additional CDAP grants which are due in February 2009.

**STREETS AND ALLEYS**

PAY REQUEST FOR DOGWOOD DRAINAGE

After reviewing the pay request from G.R.R. Construction, Commissioner Varner made a motion to pay the request #5 in the amount of \$6767.82. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Varner, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin.

PAY REQUEST FROM HDC

After reviewing the pay request from HDC, Commissioner Varner made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$1,495.23. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Lindley and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin.

PAY REQUEST FROM FOTH

After reviewing the pay request from Foth for the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Reconstruction, Commissioner Varner made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$9,638.90. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

PAY REQUEST FROM FOTH

After reviewing the pay request from Foth for services on the 2008 MFT program, Commissioner Varner made a motion to pay the request in the amount of \$838.39. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Varner, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

COMMENTS

Commissioner Lindley said that he is continuing to watch different properties in the city, and he noted that the house on Cedar is starting to look better every day.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Varner made a motion to move into executive session for Personnel – Section 2 (c) (1) and Purchase or Lease of Real Estate – Section 2 (c) (6) at 8:26 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Varner, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

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**RECONVENED AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting reconvened at 9:09 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Varner, seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Those present for roll call were: Commissioner Varner, Lindley, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin.

**HIRING OF NEW POLICE OFFICER**

After little discussion, Commissioner Varner made a motion to hire Greg Coker as a new police officer at a salary of \$32,000 per year. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Varner, and Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Varner to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lindley. Ayes, Commissioner Lindley, Varner, Mayor Pro-tem Modglin. Nays, none. Motion carried. 3-0.

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Jay Russell, Mayor

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Brenda Evans, City Clerk

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Date