

City of Nokomis
City of Nokomis Council Regular Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2026

The City Council of the City of Nokomis, County of Montgomery, Illinois held its regular meeting at the Nokomis City Hall on Monday, February 23, 2026. Mayor Goldsmith called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., and City Clerk Cassidy called the roll. Those present were Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Also, present were Chris Sherer (City Attorney) Alan Hard, Audra Elam, Chief of Police Earin Land, Chris Bridges (Benton Engineering) Ellen Christner (Pana News)

VISITORS

Consent Agenda

Mayor Goldsmith stated that the consent agenda for the February 23, 2025, regular meeting minutes, WHKS engineering services agreement for the IDOT LPF grant, WHKS IDOT joint funding agreement for the LPF grant, wastewater system improvement funding request #23 in the amount of \$162,294.50 and Lift station improvement pay authorization #6 in the amount of \$192,169.02.

Commissioner O'Malley made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays none the motion carried.

Resolutions, Petitions, Ordinances, Remonstrance and Communication:

Chris from Benton Engineering was present to give updates to the Lift Station project stating that the contractors are working on cleaning up items and finishing them up. He also stated that the contractors at the WWTP are also finishing up and will be back to seed the grass and clean up once the weather improves.

Discussion was held on resolution 2026-01 a resolution authorizing intergovernmental collaboration in the procurement of Nuisance weed and grass abatement services. Mayor Goldsmith asked Attorney Sherer if this was just for the bids, Attorney Sherer stated yes that is just for bids. Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to approve resolution 2026-01. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Glenn was absent, Nays none the motion carried.

Discussion was held on Ordinance 2148 an ordinance amending section 38-8-5 of Chapter 33 Street Regulations Article VIII of the City Code of the City of Nokomis in regard to Snow Removal. Mayor Goldsmith asked, if the homeowner doesn't have somewhere else to park what do they do, Commissioner Morris stated they will just need to call and communicate that. Mayor Goldsmith asked if there would be a penalty? Commissioner Morris stated no there would not be a penalty. Mayor Goldsmith stated that this will be an introduction to the Ordinance but would be on the next agenda.

Discussion was held on Ordinance 2149 an ordinance amending section 1-2-26 and 1-2-50 of the revised code of ordinances establishing an anti- nepotism policy. Commissioner Morris stated that she reached out to Attorney Sherer to create and updated anti- nepotism policy. Commissioner Morris stated that we do have an anti-nepotism policy in the handbook this one is updated and provides clarification. Mayor Goldsmiths stated that because we are a small town we have limited capabilities but would like to see section B worded differently. Discussion was held and changes were requested to be made for the next meeting.

Reports of City Officers

Commissioner Morris stated she did not have much to report, just that they boys were busy with snow removal and helping the water department.

Commissioner Arkebauer reported that John has been preparing to paint in the water plant. Commissioner Arkebauer stated that Blades Plumbing turned in to a bill for jetting out a private sewer line and part of the city line, commissioner Arkebauer stated that the City did not request him to do that and he did it on his own, and he was not authorized to do so therefor we should not be responsible for this bill. Commissioner Arkebauer let the council know that he will reach out to Blades Plumbing and the new owner of the car wash.

Commissioner O'Malley reported the revenues in the amount of \$1,162,530.54

Approval of Bills

Commissioner O'Malley made a motion to approve bills in the amount of \$1,077,746.56 Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Morris and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that they are starting budget discussions and letting the council know he would like to see everyone's estimated budgets turned in by the end of the month.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- nothing was discussed

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was held on the 2026 clean up days, Mayor Goldsmith stated that he will contact someone about the spring yard sales dates before we set our clean up days.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that in the past we have submitted letters of support to Great Rivers and Routes for tourism support. Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to submit the letter of support. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Chief Land was present to address the council to let them know that the current K9 Vehicle has been out of commission and will be for at least two months and that every day the vehicle is broken down is a day we cannot use Luna. Chief Land is requesting up to \$50,000.00 to

purchase a new vehicle. Chief Land stated that he has found a couple of options. Discussion was held on the vehicle and purchasing a vehicle out of capital outlay.

Commissioner Morris made a motion to approve the purchase of a police vehicle not to exceed \$50,000.00. Commissioner O'Malley seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Glenn was absent, Nays none the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Morris made a motion to enter closed session at 7:33 P.M. for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of the public body (5ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Collective negotiating matter between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees (5ILCS 120/2(c)(3) The setting of a price for the sale or lease of property owned by the public body (5ILCS 120/2(c)(6). Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Morris made a motion in enter regular session at 9:05 P.M. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioners Glenn was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Other Business

Commissioner Morris made a motion to give the part time police officers raise retroactive to January 1, 2026. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Adjournment

With nothing else to report Commissioner O'Malley made a motion adjourn at 9:07 P.M. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Arkebauer, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Cassidy
City Clerk