

City of Nokomis
City of Nokomis Council Special Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2025

The City Council of the City of Nokomis, County of Montgomery, Illinois held a special meeting at the Nokomis City Hall on Monday April 18, 2025. Mayor Goldsmith called the meeting to order at 4:15 P.M. City Clerk Cassidy called the roll. Those present were Commissioners Morris, Glenn, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Arkebauer was absent. Also, the present was City Clerk Cassidy. Visitors Ellen Christner, Chief Talon Burton, Sargent Racheal Ehrhardt, Officer Nathan Brookshire and Officer Landon Collins.

Mayor Goldsmith opened the meeting asking Chief Burton if he could explain to the council what is going on with the potential new dog. Chief Burton explained that they have found a new option for a dog, however training starts on Monday. Officer Brookshire stated that the dog trainer has seventeen years of experience as a K9 instructor, the dog is a two-year-old lab for \$9,500.00 and included the training, and a health guarantee. Chief Burton stated that he does not want a Malinois because they are known to be mean. Chief Burton stated that he just wants a simple dog purpose dog. Chief Burton stated that the instructor has provided several dogs to several communities, the dog will come with a 2-year warranty and a 4-year health guarantee. Commissioner Glenn asked if there is a contract for Chris to look at, and when we will need to provide payment. Chief Burton stated that payment would be due next week sometime. Commissioner Morris asked if we don't choose this dog and this training, when is the next training. Chief Burton stated that the next training would be in the fall, and they could not guarantee that this specific dog would be available. Officer Brookshire stated that they don't do contracts, and even bigger places don't typically do contracts. Chief Burton stated that he will get something in writing. Chief Burton stated that the dog will stay at Brookshires, he already has a fence and he has donated a small outdoor shed to use as housing. Commissioner Glenn asked Chief Burton why we need the dog, is there a drug problem. Chief Burton stated that yes there is a drug problem, meth is rampant down Rt. 16, county has been busy on the interstate making stops. Officer Landon Collins stated that the dog will be more helpful than just for drugs, the dog could help with missing people and assist with surrounding communities with calls. Discussion was held on the use of the dog and needing probable cause. Mayor Goldsmith questioned if they would be able to run the dog on any vehicle. Officer Landon Collins stated that it just depends on the stop and how long you have for that stop. Commissioner Morris questioned what the time is for a traffic stop. Officer Ehrhardt stated it has to be a reasonable time and it time depends on the type of call. Mayor Goldsmith stated that we just don't want to run the dog just to run it. Officer Collins stated that no we can't just run the dog to run the dog, there has to be suspicion. Commissioner Morris asked Officer

Collins why he wasn't chosen to have the dog if he knows so much. Officer Collins stated that he is not really a dog person and Officer Brookshire already has dogs. Discussion was held on call outs and probable cause. Commissioner Glenn asked about paying for call outs. Chief Burton stated that yes, there will be pay for call outs. Commissioner O'Malley asked how long the training is. The Chief stated that the training is for 6 weeks. Mayor Goldsmith asked if Nate leaves what is the protocol. Chief Burton stated that the dog stays with the city, we would need to get a new handler or retire the dog. Officer Ehrhardt stated that they are planning a fundraiser on May 4th at the City Hall parking lot. Commissioner Morris questioned Chief Burton if he had recently been asked to review body camera footage of a recent traffic stop. Where someone was pulled over they were questioning probable cause. Officer Brookshire explained the traffic stop, stating that there was just cause, and that he would not pull someone over for no reason.

Commissioner O'Malley stated that we will need documentation for the dog.

Commissioner O'Malley made a motion to approve the purchase of a police K9. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Arkebauer was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to send Nathan Brookshire to K9 training. Commissioner O'Malley seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Arkebauer was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to adjourn at 4:38 P.M. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, O'Malley and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Arkebauer was absent. Nays none the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Cassidy
City Clerk