

**City of Nokomis**  
**City of Nokomis Council Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**January 23, 2023**

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The City Council of the City of Nokomis, County of Montgomery, Illinois held its regular meeting at the Nokomis City Hall on Monday, January 23, 2023. Mayor Holliday called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and the City Clerk called the roll. Those present were Commissioners Stauder, Durbin, Nash; and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Also present City Clerk Hill, Attorney Chris Sherer, and Chief Burton; Ellen Christener (Pana News) Ben Schwarm (Journal News). Visitors present were Donald Baxter, Gloria Wendling, Alan Hard and Jake Leonard.

**VISITORS**

Donald Baxter was present to address the Council. Mr. Baxter wanted to know who he is supposed to call and who is supposed to respond when there is a water emergency. Mr. Baxter went on to explain that he called December 26<sup>th</sup> when he arrived back home after being gone during the holidays to have his water shut off. Mr. Baxter explained when he got home he found out he had a water break during the recent cold snap and his house was flood and part of his ceiling had fallen. Mr. Baxter stated that he spoke with someone from the County who called the number for Nokomis water emergencies. Mr. Baxter stated no one ever responded or called him to come shut off his water at the meter, he let the council know that he eventually got a hold of David Hadley who came over to help and was able to get his water shut off. Mr. Baxter expressed how unhappy he was that no one responded stating that if someone would have responded he might not have had as much damage. Commissioner Nash asked Mr. Baxter if he remembered who was supposed to call him back. Mr. Baxter wasn't sure but stated that he thought it started with a "C" sound. Commissioner Nash asked if it was Koontz. Mr. Baxter stated that sounded correct.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the January 9, 2023 public hearing were presented. Commissioner Durbin made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Stauder seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioner Stauder, Nash, Durbin and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Minutes of the January 9, 2023 regular meeting were presented. Commissioner Durbin made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Stauder seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, and Durbin; and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Minutes of the January 9, 2023 executive meeting were presented. Commissioner Durbin made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Stauder seconded the motion.

Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, and Durbin; and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

### **Resolutions, Petitions, Ordinances, Remonstrance**

Ordinance 2099. An Ordinance of the City of Nokomis. Montgomery County IL, An Ordinance authorizing advertisement for sale of real property owned by the City of Nokomis. Commissioner Stauder asked if the easement is included in the sale. He also stated that there are a couple changes that need to be made, some dated are wrong. Commissioner Nash also stated that he would like to add a 90 day stipulation. Mayor Holliday stated we would make the changes and add the ordinance to the next agenda.

Commissioner Durbin made a motion to approve the 2023 MFT maintenance engineering agreement program with WHKS. Commissioner Stauder seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, Durbin and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Stauder stated that he would like to wait until the easement is completed to sign the final plans for the storm sewer project. Commissioner Stauder stated that he would speak with Justin at Hurst-Rosche to get the easement.

### **Reports of City Officers**

Commissioner Stauder reported monthly revenues of \$154,799.71

Commissioner Nash stated that he has received a list of equipment for both plants. Commissioner Nash also stated that we have put out proposals for the water plant door replacements. Commissioner Nash also stated that he approved to send Greg Scoles and John Koontz to the ILRWA training in Effingham for \$190.00 per person. He also let the council know that there would be a zoom informational meeting with 120Water about what they could offer the City with lead line replacements.

Commissioner Nash also stated that he has a building permit for UJs, he let the council know that they will be making a 54 X 16 addition. Mayor Holliday asked if they would be leave room to drive around the building. Commissioner Nash stated they will be leave about 16 feet at the edge of the property to drive around. Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve the permit application. Commissioner Stauder seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioner Stauder, Nash, Durbin and Mayor Holliday. Nays none. The motion carried.

Mayor Holliday reported on the Police Department. Mayor Holliday stated that the Police Department is looking into hiring a school resource officer. Chief Burton stated that he has been in touch with Dr. Dorrer and the school is willing to pay a portion on the wages. Commissioner Nash asked if he had an officer in mind. Chief Burton let the council know that he did have someone in mind. Commissioner Stauder asked the Chief about the code enforcement



officer and how much of that time is used in Coalton. Chief Burton responded that the code enforcement officer we had was temporary and has gone to the academy. Chief said about 10% of the calls that the department is for Coalton. Commissioner Stauder stated that the Coalton contract needs to be changed. Chief Burton agreed. Visitor Alan Hard stated that at one time Coalton paid a flat fee of maybe \$1500 to \$2000.00 a month but at some point that changed and the City only collected on the fine money.

Mayor Holliday stated that it sounds like the City needs a new agreement we only have to give them a 30 day notice. Discussion followed on what a neighboring City pays for their police patrol and what the City should ask for from Coalton. Chief Burton stated the City responded to roughly 120 call to Coalton on the last year. Commissioner Nash suggested we ask for \$ 650.00 a year.

Commissioner Durbin reported on the Street Department monthly report.

### **Approval of Bills**

Commissioner Stauder asked Commissioner Nash why Bailey plumbing and Sowarsh plumbing were both on the bill list. Commissioner Nash stated that Brian had to have a backflow put in and by one and tested by the other. Commissioner Stauder made a motion to approve the monthly bills totaling \$44,132.31. Commissioner Durbin seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, and Durbin; and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Nash stated that the flag pole at Fred B. Johnson Park had broken and he has several option for different types of flag poles. Discussion about flag poles followed. The Council agreed to order a 20' aluminum pole spending no more than \$1800.00 Commissioner Nash added that we are still looking into cameras at Fred B. Johnson Park.

Mayor Holliday stated that he had met with the foreman and Father at the Catholic about the sidewalks. Mayor Holliday stated that the church did not want to fix part of the stairs that is used for coffin entrance. They will put up handrails and rope that area off. They also agreed to fix the handicap ramp.

Commissioner Stauder stated that we have received one quote for a new siren but we have no news from the County.

Discussion was held on the need for a new snow plow, he stated that one of the plows is from the 70s and has been patched together for the last several seasons. Commissioner Durbin made a motion to purchase a new snow plow in the amount of \$12,750.00. Commissioner Stauder seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, Durbin and Mayor Holliday. Nays none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve Iseler Demolition to take down the old water tower in the amount of \$33,600.00. Commissioner Durbin seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, Durbin and Mayor Holliday. Nays none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Durbin asked the council if the fire department could get approval to put in a sign next to the building they are wanting to put in a 4ft. by 6ft. sign next to the building. Commissioner Durbin stated they are wanting to put in a pedestal style sign but are not opposed to putting it on the building. Discussion followed on what would be a good location on the sign. Commissioner Stauder stated he is not sure next to the building would work due to state right of way. Commissioner Durbin questioned the location on the City generator, and if that was technically on State right of way. Commissioner Durbin stated he would look into it, however he has been in contact with Greg Leigh from the state and he didn't think there would be a problem with it. Discussion was then held on the location of the billboard and who owns that property. Visitor Alan Hard stated he believes that is on the laundromat property.

Commissioner Stauder let the Council know that Benton and Associates is working on getting the City information on getting a portable generator for the waste water department lift stations.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion was held on sending out a proposal letter for the manhole replacement at Walnut and Franklin St.

Discussion was held on sending out a proposal letter for the replacement of the doors at the water treatment plant.

Discussion was held on placing safe zone signs in the front parking lot at the City Hall Complex. Commissioner Nash let the Council know this would be a sign that let the public know that City Hall is under 24 hour surveillance.

Discussion was then held on the work that still needs to be done at the City Hall Complex due to water damage when the pipes burst. City Clerk Hill stated she will be putting in a claim to the insurance company.

Discussion was held on amending the City code to include regulations on tiny homes.

Discussion was held on the Greenway pipeline that is currently looking to go through a neighboring township. Visitor Jake Leonard asked the Council if we know where they actually plan to run the pipeline. Commissioner Stauder stated no one knows for sure but it appears they are changing their plans. The council then discussed sending a letter to the County board with the Cities expressed concern. Mayor Holliday stated we should send a letter as a whole. Commissioner Stauder stated he already had one drafted.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Durbin made a motion to enter executive session at 8:06 P.M. for Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of the employees (5ILCS 120/2 (c) (2), The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of the Public Body (5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1). Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, and Durbin; and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Durbin made a motion to enter back into regular session at 8:15 P.M. Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, and Durbin; and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

### **Other Business**

Commissioner Durbin made a motion promote Racheal Erharndt to Sergeant. Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, and Durbin; and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Nash made a motion to adjourn at 8:16 P.M. Commissioner Durbin seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Nash, and Durbin; and Mayor Holliday. Commissioner Glenn was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Hill,  
City Clerk