

City of Nokomis
City of Nokomis Council Regular Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2025

The City Council of the City of Nokomis, County of Montgomery, Illinois held its regular meeting at the Nokomis City Hall on Monday, March 24, 2025. Mayor Goldsmith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and Deputy Clerk Smith called the roll. Those present were Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Also, present were Attorney Chris Sherer, Ben Schwarm (Journal news), Ellen Christener (Pana News), Allen Hard, Chris Bridges (Benton and Associates).

VISITORS

No visitors were present to address the council.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of March 10, 2025, regular meeting were presented. Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

The minutes of March 10, 2025, executive meeting were presented. Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Resolutions, Petitions, Ordinances, Remonstrance

No resolutions, petitions, ordinances, are on the agenda.

Reports of City Officers

Commissioner Morris stated that there were no updates from her.

Commissioner Glenn stated that the street department has been working on limbs, brushes, pumps, and are needing to order Street signs.

Commissioner Glenn stated that he and Tim Chumley met today to go over his budget, and Tim had already sat down with Roger about the MFT budget.

Commissioner Glenn stated that the wastewater road is needing repairs due to the heavy equipment from the construction.

Commissioner Glenn briefly talked about the fire hydrants and the need to get them done. Commissioner Arkebauer stated that he will get with John and have him get a Julie called in on the Walnut Street hydrant, with the possibility of a second one getting done also.

Commissioner Glenn stated that he and Tim will be getting a tree list together and getting bids from a couple of tree services.

Commissioner Glenn briefly talked about new lawn mowers stating that he is working on getting three quotes to present at the next meeting.

Commissioner Arkebauer stated that Steve Marrow approached him about the possibility of cutting down trees for the City and stated that he is a local guy that is just getting his business up and running.

Commissioner Arkebauer stated that he remembered in the last budget that the mowers were going to be split between all three departments, so we need to look into this as we look at mowers.

Commissioner Arkebauer stated that there was nothing to report on the water department, and Greg at the wastewater has been having pump issues that are getting fixed.

Commissioner Arkebauer stated that the wastewater plant looks a lot better, and he thinks the message was received well, and he is happy with the outcome.

Commissioner Glenn added that he had been in contact with the new owners of the Nursing Home and has sent them the vacant home information to be filled out and returned to City Hall.

Commissioner Arkebauer asked about a letter being sent out to obtain the residents' most up to date information, and how to go about this, stated that we have spoken about this before. He asked attorney Sherer if he would draft something up for us to send out.

Commissioner O'Malley reported the revenues at \$121,907.98

Commissioner O'Malley made a motion to approve the bills totaling \$25,582.10. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith briefly discussed the 2025 – 2026 budget, stating that he was needing to get with Commissioner O'Malley, and wanted to have all departments have a draft by April 1st. Mayor Goldsmith stated that he would like to have a budget meeting set for 6pm before our next regular meeting April 14, 2025.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that he received a call from Roger with good news, stating that we had fed funds coming through for MFT that was allotted last year, and the City was unaware of this.

Mayor Goldsmith asked for the Deputy Clerk to reach out to the railroad to get a time frame and scope of work to be done on the spruce street crossing.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that he and Tim were looking at what sidewalks to repair and would suggest not doing any of the ones near the school as he is looking into the safe route to school grant.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that the fellow program ladies were here that morning and it went very well, she has a couple more towns to interview before she makes her decision.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Goldsmith asked if there were any questions with the Handbook. Commissioner Morris asked about the paid time and a holiday falling in, with that getting cleared up she was ok with it. Commissioner O'Malley stated he went through it and was ok with everything. Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to approve the City Handbook. Commissioner O'Malley seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A brief discussion was held on the designs of the front facing wall from Milano & Grunloh, with Mayor Goldsmith stating he would take their suggestions back to them and ask for new designs for the next meeting.

Chris Bridges was present to answer any questions regarding the pay application #12, he also stated that the work on the wastewater plant road was in project to be done, and that he suggested to have the Capps lift station be the first to get done as the City was having issues with it. Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to approve pay request #12 for \$398,305.98. Commissioner Glenn seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Glenn stated that the police department has around sixty pictures of vacant homes, and he drafted a letter to be sent out for new vacant homes, and homes that have been sent a letter already. Mayor Goldsmith asked if the downtown buildings that are vacant are being dealt with also.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner O'Malley made a motion to enter closed session at 7:48 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)). Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Adjournment

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to resume the regular session at 8:19 P.M. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that there was nothing to report after the closed session.

Commissioner Glenn stated that Tim was up on the roof to look at the repairs done by Youngs roofing, and the issue was still occurring. Commissioner Glenn stated that they will be back to look at the issue.

Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 P.M. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karri Smith
Deputy Clerk