

**City of Nokomis**  
**City of Nokomis Council Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**April 8, 2024**

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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, April 8, 2024. 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 Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Also, present was Attorney Chris Sherer, Ellen Christener (Pana News) Ben Schwarm (Journal news) Keith Hancock, Dolan O'Malley, Stevie Guinn, Brain Hayes (Wastewater Operator), Allen Hard, L Kevin Turner at 7:38 and Josh Robison at 8:28.

**VISITORS**

No visitors were present to address the council.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of the March 25, 2024, regular meeting was presented. Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Glenn seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Minutes of the March 25, 2024, executive meeting was presented. Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

**Resolutions, Petitions, Ordinances, Remonstrance**

Ordinance 2118- an ordinance amending section 1-2-4 of the revised code of ordinance of Nokomis, Illinois regarding notice of Special meetings. Commissioner Glenn suggested both an email and hand delivery to the Council be done not just an email, as not everyone checks their emails daily. Ordinance 2118 will need to be put on the next agenda with that correction being made.

Ordinance 2119- an ordinance amending chapter 23 and chapter 27 of the revised code of ordinances of Nokomis, Illinois. Commissioner Glenn stated he would like it to extend the time allowed for a RV to be parked to fourteen days. Ordinance 2119 will need to be put on the next agenda with that correction being made.

## **Reports of City Officers**

Commissioner Morris started a brief discussion by stating that she has had complaints about garbage being put into a garage with an open door and now is becoming a health and safety issue. She mentioned that she has reached out to Montgomery County for help with the issue, also the police department have issued several citations to the resident. Commissioner Morris stated that she has investigated companies that will clean it up, Commissioner Stauder asked how we would recoup the funds if we set that up. Commissioner Morris ask that it be addressed because if it's not, it appears the city council does not care about those around the nuisance on union street and those that have filed complaints with City Hall. Commissioner Glenn asked Attorney Sherer what the state recourse would be to do criminal charges. Attorney Sherer stated that he has been working with Chief Burton on the ordinance violations.

Commissioner Glenn gave an update on the Street Departments report by stating that they have been out pot holing and cleaning brush out of the ditches. Commissioner Glenn added that he has asked Tim to get a sidewalk list together to get them replaced and we could set the flagpole at the park. Commissioner Glenn asked if it would be possible if the street department could use Bobbie Ellis if he has down time at the water department, Mayor Goldsmith stated that he is still in training for both water and wastewater, Commissioner Arkebauer said that he didn't see an issue with that.

Commissioner Arkebauer stated that there is an issue with a manhole at Franklin and Walnut as it has been washed out and the street department has put barricades around it. Commissioner Arkebauer added that this needs to be addressed ASAP. It was mentioned that this was the manhole that Blades plumbing was supposed to do and has not done yet. Commissioner Stauder added that we should put a call in to Cameron with Benton and Associates. Commissioner Arkebauer went on and stated that Brotcke has been doing the well maintenance. Commissioner Arkebauer added that John went to locator training, and Greg will be getting a list together for camera and jetting that needs to be done. A brief discussion was had on the portable pump, and the need to purchase or rent one.

Commissioner Stauder reported the revenue totaling \$61,529.16.

Commissioner Arkebauer made the motion to approve bills totaling \$60,193.99. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that everything he needed to discuss was on the agenda for later.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mayor Goldsmith stated that he would like to see the diligence period for the solar contract to be one year with a possible extension of a year on the solar facility site release agreement and is in the contract now for two years with a two-year extension. Commissioner Stauder wants a

defined map of the area. Commissioner Glenn asked about the 1.7% revenue stating that he didn't think that was enough. Mayor Goldsmith stated that it is better than nothing which is what we are getting now. The easement for water lines on the property was briefly discussed. Commissioner Stauder wanted to know who is mowing the property now.

A brief discussion on the electric rates was had with Commissioner Stauder stating we need to reach out to who we use now to get rates as well. This will need to be on the next agenda.

Commissioner Arkebauer began the discussion on the hiring and termination of water and wastewater operators stating that it is worth looking into if it will save the city money. Commissioner Arkebauer will get more information for the next meeting.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that the property on Gibson that Mike Stombaugh is questioning is with the attorney for review at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Goldsmith opened the only bid we had for portions of PIN 08-22-403 and 08-22-454-012. The bid came from Osage Equites, INC for \$150,000. As this was not on the agenda to be voted on it will be added to the special meeting agenda.

A discussion was held on the need for a special meeting to go over the budget and approve the bid for the property. With a tentative date set of March 16, 2024, at 4:30 P.M.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve the Source Water Protection Plan. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith opened the floor for the discussion on eliminating the position of part time administrative consultant. Commissioner Arkebauer began the discussion by stating that the agreement stated that he would work 6 hours per week and is overly exaggerated, he asked what's the point, if Keith would have only worked the 6 hours a week, he was hired too we may not be in the situation we are in. Commissioner Arkebauer continued by stating that he caused a lot of unnecessary drama. Commissioner Glenn added that he wasn't sure when he voted him in that the position was necessary and now, he believes it is not. Commissioner Morris added that it is a power match and asked Keith how many grants he has done, to which Keith answered none. The comment was made that not everyone was getting the report from Keith, to which he stated Dylan was the only one that asked for one. Mayor Goldsmith stated that at no time had any of the Commissioner reached out to Keith to correct any of the issues or ask questions. Mayor Goldsmith asked for a motion. Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to terminate the position of part time administrative consultant. Commissioner Glenn seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioner Morris, Glenn, and Arkebauer. Voting no, Commissioner Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. The motion carried.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to go into executive session during its regular session at 7:37 P.M. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employee of the public body (5ILCS 120/2 (C) (1). Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

## **Other Business**

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to resume regular session at 8:28 P.M. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Stauder started the lengthy discussion on next year's budget with the majority of the discussion revolving around the need to replace vehicles. A special meeting will be held to go over the budget in detail.

## **Adjournment**

Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to adjourn at 9:04 P.M. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Morris, Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karri Smith  
Deputy Clerk