

City of Nokomis
City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2022

The City Council of the City of Nokomis, County of Montgomery, Illinois held its regular meeting at the Nokomis City Hall on Monday, September 12, 2022. Commissioner Stauder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and the City Clerk called the roll. Those present were Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash and Durbin. Mayor Holliday was absent. Also present were City Clerk Rachel Hill, and Attorney Chris Sherer. Visitors present: Bobbie Dean (CTI), Adam Fox (Benton and Associates), Whitey Patton and Nathan Potts (Patton & Associates), Ben Schwarm (Journal News) and Ellen Christner (Free Press) and Gary and Clarann Hulbert.

VISITORS

Whitey Patton was present to address the council on the Cities annual audit. Mr. Patton addressed the council with facts about the economy, Mr. Patton mentioned to the council electric vehicles are on the rise but people with electric vehicles don't pay for gas, bars and restaurants are still having trouble with employment, but other places are still managing to grow. Donnellson now has a Dollar General, and Hillsboro continues to grow. Unfortunately Illinois is losing big businesses. Mr. Patton also stated that there are major water problems all over the country. Water is the cheapest thing we can get. Discussion was then had on the revenues and expenditures from last year and the year before. Video gaming was at the highest it's ever been. Mr. Patton stated that he believes the water and sewer rates need to be raised to keep the funds going and to make the improvements to our system that need to be made. Mr. Patton also stated that he believes that the CD interest rates will begin to rise in the next twelve to fifteen months. Discussion was also held on where potentially improvements. Mr. Patton also stated that the tax levy is ready for review when the council is ready.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the August 22, 2022 regular meeting were presented. Commissioner Durbin made a motion to approve the minutes with two corrections needing to be made. Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash, and Durbin. The Mayor was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Resolutions, Petitions, Ordinances, Remonstrance

Commissioner Stauder presented Resolution 2022-06. A resolution approving and authorizing the execution and delivery of an easement agreement with Computer Techniques Inc. Commissioner Nash made a motion to approve resolution 2022-06. Commissioner Durbin seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash, and Durbin. Mayor Holliday was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Reports of City Officers

Commissioner Stauder discussed the bill for C & K Communications. Commissioner Stauder stated he had requested a detailed bill for what the City was paying for.

Commissioner Stauder reported monthly revenues of \$126,084.96

Commissioner Glenn addressed the council with a business district grant application for 117 E State Street for a new roof and would like to approve \$6,000.00 for the grant. Commissioner Stauder stated he believed the business needed to be a tax generating business to be eligible for that grant. Commissioner Nash agreed stating he believes that is correct. Commissioner Glenn decided to wait until the next meeting for a decision.

Commissioner Nash presented a backflow prevention for Carolyn Dewerff. After discussion Commissioner Nash then made a motion to approve the backflow prevention in the amount of \$4,000.00. Commissioner Durbin seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash and Durbin. Nays none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Nash updated the council on the status of the HVAC repairs that are needed in the City Complex building. He also updated the council on the roof replacement at the waste water plant. Mr. Nash stated that the roof replacement should start in the next two weeks. He also updated the council about the filters at the water plant, he let everyone know that filters 3 & 4 are back up and in a few days they would make repairs to filters 1 & 2 all of the repairs should be done and all four filters should be back up and running by October. Commissioner Nash also stated Eric Emmerich from EJ water had given a quote for the water tower demolition which could be completed by May of 2023.

Commissioner Durbin stated that they are still waiting on oil prices for the bridges and the ally at Sav Mor. He let everyone know he hasn't heard back from the school about the sign for the front of the City Complex building. Commissioner Durbin stated that the stairs at the Catholic Church were not done correctly, they were not done up to code. They are too steep and there is no railing. He let the Council know that Superintendent Chumley had spoken to Father and they agreed the stairs and handicap ramp needed fixed. Commissioner Durbin stated that the company that did the work only broom brushed the handicap ramp. Commissioner Durbin stated he didn't think the City should help pay for the concrete a second time. Commissioner Stauder stated that only the sidewalk was the City's responsibility. Discussion was then held on asking Scott Hunt from WHKS to take a look at the sidewalk and handicap ramp to make sure it was getting done correctly.

Discussion was then held on the roll off container that is parked on State Street. The Council decided to look into time limits for construction materials on the highway. Commissioner Nash stated he believed the dumpster would need to be moved by October 1st in accordance with

the snow routes sign. Commissioner Nash asked Attorney Chris Sherer to look into the matter. Commissioner Durbin stated the City should at least be notified. The council discussed maybe requiring a permit. The dumpster currently on the street in the parking space and is blocking the sidewalk for the doctor's office. Commissioner Durbin stated he would run point on the matter.

Approval of Bills

Commissioner Stauder made a motion to approve the monthly bills totaling \$182,321.11. Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash, and Durbin. Nays, none. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion was held on the Animal Control Contract with Montgomery County, with no decision made, they continued.

Commissioner Stauder made a motion to approve the Montgomery County Economic Development contract. Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash and Durbin. Nays none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Glenn stated he has reached out to a neighboring community to ask about mosquito spraying to potentially use their license. Commissioner Nash stated that Landon would be trying to retake the test.

Commissioner Stauder asked the Council's idea of the administrative consultant. Commissioner Glenn stated maybe the next council should be the one to decide that. Attorney Sherer stated that there are multiple ways you can find a person for administrative consultant. Commissioner Glenn stated he wasn't sure he wanted to create another position.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Stauder made a motion to approve flu shots for the 2022 season. Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash and Durbin. Nays none. The motion carried.

Discussion was held on raises for the next Mayor and Commissioners after the upcoming election. Attorney Sherer stated there is a process for approving raises, if they want to consider raises they (the council) has a limited window of time to approve it. Commissioner Nash suggested we wait until the next meeting to discuss it more.

Discussion was held on doing building inspections on the downtown buildings. The council discussed advertising with the engineering companies we already use to see if they would be interested. They held discussion on what type of inspection and how many inspections they should have. Council agreed to discuss further at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Durbin made a motion to enter closed executive session at 7:57 p.m. to discuss 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). And the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or their representatives, or deliberations, concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of the employees (5ILCS 120/2 (c) (2). Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash, and Durbin. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Durbin made a motion to resume regular session at 8:15 p.m. Commissioner Nash seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash, and Durbin. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Other Business

Commissioner Durbin made a motion to hire Harley Hedderman for the position of part time police officer. Commissioner Glenn seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash and Durbin. Nays none. The motion carried.

Adjournment

Commissioner Nash made a motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Commissioner Durbin seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Nash, and Durbin. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Hill
City Clerk