

City of Nokomis
City of Nokomis Council Regular Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2025

The City Council of the City of Nokomis, County of Montgomery, Illinois held its regular meeting at the Nokomis City Hall on Monday, September 8, 2025. Mayor Goldsmith called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M., and Deputy Clerk Smith called the roll. Those present were Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Also, present were Chris Sherer (City Attorney) Allen Hard, Tim Chumley (Street Superintendent), Ellen Christner (Pana News), Ben Schwarm (Journal News) Audra Elam, Jocko Nash, Jana Masten, Stevie Guinn, Roger Knoll (Farnsworth Group) Carol Gomez (pd clerk), Sergeant Rachael Ehrhardt, Chief Talon Burton, Officers Nathon Brookshire, Dan Marron, and Dalton King. Scott Hunt (WHKS) came after closed session.

VISITORS

Allan Hard was present to ask for repairs to be done on the City's brick roads, and to have the low hanging limbs cut out of the roadway.

Jocko Nash was present to ask for a copy of the Gym lease that was passed at the last meeting.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of August 25, 2025, regular meeting were presented. Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner O'Malley seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Resolutions, Petitions, Ordinances, Remonstrance

Commissioner Morris stated that she had 2 bids for the concrete work at the Street Department shed, with one bid coming in with the wrong dimensions. Commissioner Morris made a motion to approve the bid to Russ Foster for the concrete at the Street Shed 41x60 slab including materials and labor in the amount of \$27,250. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve the street closure of Route 16 for the Snowkomis celebration on December 12, 2025, from 5pm – 9pm. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Reports of City Officers

Commissioner Morris gave a run down on the street department stating that they are staying busy with the normal mowing, they fixed a service leak on Saturday at South and Walnut, and are digging ditches on North Walnut.

Commissioner Glenn stated that himself and Chief Burton are working on vacant homes and will be getting letters out soon.

Commissioner Arkebauer gave updates on the repair needed for well 15 stating that the repairs will cost approximately \$18,928. Mayor Goldsmith stated to go ahead with the repairs needed.

Commissioner O'Malley reported the revenues at \$29,241.33

Commissioner O'Malley made a motion to approve the bills totaling \$48,025.09. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that he spoke with Chief Burton, and both agreed that the non-highway vehicle application could be added to the website, with putting the responsibility of inspection on the owner instead of the police department. Council was in agreeance, to put this on the website with the owner needing to supply proof of insurance and a valid driver's license and pay the \$40 fee.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that he was approached about letting the cousins Maine lobster food truck park on the City parking lot, due to construction at the Farmers Station. Council members were ok with allowing the food truck to park at the City Hall.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A brief discussion was held on the roof repairs at City Hall, with ongoing issues still being a problem. Commissioner Glenn will reach out to the company for a solution.

NEW BUSINESS

Roger Knoxoll was present to discuss the grant application for IDOT safe routes to school. Roger told the council that the sidewalks they will be applying for are on Pine and Spruce. The Grant is a \$250,000 grant with no match needed, but the City would be responsible for the engineering and construction, which will be approximately \$20,000 - \$25,000 a piece, to which MFT funds could help offset the cost. Roger is asking the council to approve the grant application work in the amount of \$2,000. Jana Masten was present representing the school district and stated that they are also going for this grant, but for parking not sidewalks, Roger will be in touch with Jana about the possibility of working together. Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve Roger to move forward with the grant application in the amount of \$2,000. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Commissioner O'Malley made a motion to approve the public hearing date for Monday September 22, 2025, at 5:30 P.M. to announce the City's intention to apply for funding for the City of Nokomis Safe Route to School. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Scott Hunt was not present at this time to discuss WHKS proposal, Mayor Goldsmith stated that he would be here and asked to move this to the end of the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Morris made a motion to go into closed session at 7:33 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), The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of the Public Body (5 ILCS 120/ 2 (c) (1), and The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body 5ILCS 120/2(c)(6). Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Adjournment

Commissioner Morris made a motion to resume regular session at 8:40 P.M. Commissioner O'Malley seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to hire Amanda Stokes as the police department clerk effective September 22, 2025, pending background checks, starting at \$18 while training with an increase to \$20 when Carol retires in December. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Scott Hunt was present to go over the Downtown Beautification Project phase A, stating that the City would be responsible for the engineering fees of \$96,870, with the project set to break ground approximately June or July 2027. Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve the Downtown Beautification Project phase A not to exceed \$96,870. Commissioner Morris seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith asked Stevie Guinn to put new trash receptacles at Curbside Cravings and Honey Mugs.

Commissioner O'Malley made a motion to adjourn at 8:52 P.M. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Morris, Arkebauer, and O'Malley; and Mayor Goldsmith. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karri Smith
Deputy Clerk