

City of Nokomis
City of Nokomis Council Regular Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2023

The City Council of the City of Nokomis, County of Montgomery, Illinois held its regular meeting at the Nokomis City Hall on Monday, November 13, 2023. Mayor Goldsmith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. City Clerk Hill called the roll. Those present were Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Also, present was Attorney Chris Sherer, Ellen Christener (Pana News) Ben Schwarm (Journal News) Allan Hard, Keith Hancock, Dolan O'Malley, Roger Nuxoll (Farnsworth) Butch Durbin, Cameron Jones (Benton and Associates)

VISITORS

No visitors were present to address the council.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the October 23, 2023, regular meeting was presented. Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Glenn seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Minutes of the October 23, 2023, executive meeting was presented. Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Minutes of the October 31, 2023, special meeting was presented. Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Stauder seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder; and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

Resolutions, Petitions, Ordinances, Remonstrance

Discussion was held on the upcoming tax levy. Commissioner Glenn asked Attorney Sherer if there were any new sources of income the city could look for. Attorney Sherer stated not really.

Mayor Goldsmith addressed the council to let them know that Cameron Jones from Benton and Associates was present to discuss the bid opening for the wastewater treatment plant project. Mr. Jones addressed the Council to let them know that a bid opening occurred on November

1st, and they received three bids for the project. Mr. Jones explained that the low bid came in over the estimated amount at over eight million dollars. Mr. Jones explained that he has spoken with the EPA and they believe they would be able to get the City an additional 820 thousand dollars in loan forgiveness due to non-compliance and that would bring our loan forgiveness to over two million dollars and we could potentially get another grant. Discussion continued on the wastewater treatment plant. The Council decided wait to approve the bids until the first meeting in December. Mr. Jones stated that if we can approve the bid in December the City would be able to start the project in January and hopefully finish in 2025, and that the rates we currently have in place will support this debt service. Discussion was held on the price of rock being the main reason for the overage. Mayor Goldsmith asked Mr. Jones if we could make changes to the bid request now that we have a breakdown or do the project in phases? Mr. Jones stated that if we made too many changes, we would have to rebid the project. Cameron decided stated that the council could wait until the next meeting to decide and see if any cuts could be made.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve resolution 2023-10. A resolution approving and authorizing the execution and delivery of an intergovernmental cooperation agreement with the board of education of Nokomis Community Unit School District No. 22. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve resolution 2023-11. A resolution approving and authorizing the execution and delivery of an intergovernmental cooperation agreement with special education services (a/k/a) Menta education group. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith requested to save resolution 2023-12 for the next meeting. Resolution 2023-12 is a resolution approving and authorizing the execution and delivery of a reciprocal agreement on exchange of information between the City of Nokomis and the Illinois Department of Revenue. Mayor Goldsmith stated that he would like to wait until Commissioner Morris was present to discuss the resolution further.

Reports of City Officers

With Commissioner Morris's absence Commissioner Glenn stated that he reviewed the building permits. Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve a building permit at 313 S Walnut. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve a building permit at 703 E Union. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Commissioner Glenn stated that the street department has been using the vac trailer to pothole for the lead lines and picking up leaves. Commissioner Glenn stated he has also gotten a tree inventory from Bob Barnstable. Commissioner Glenn stated that he would like the public to know that trees that are planted on city property must be approved by the city and only certain trees can be planted.

Commissioner Arkebauer addressed the council to let them know that John has been busy using Diamond maps and GISing lines at the water plant. Commissioner Arkebauer stated that well 13 has been down and it is waiting for repairs. Commissioner Arkebauer also stated that the wastewater plant has been having some problems with a couple of lift stations and Greg is still waiting on the pumps to be worked on.

Commissioner Stauder reported the revenues in the amount of \$176,210.93

Commissioner Stauder made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$123,212.81. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Arkebauer and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith addressed the council to let them know that it is against City Ordinance to blow leaves into the streets. Mayor Goldsmith stated that he would like to Council to consider planning a special meeting to review vacant house ordinance 2107.

Mayor Goldsmith asked if a sketch needs to be included in the building permits. Commissioner Glenn and Commissioner Stauder both agreed that a sketch should be included. Commissioner Glenn stated that it doesn't have to be pretty but it should be included.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that he would like to look into getting a new water rate study done.

Discussion was held on the sidewalk at the corner of Ugly Mugs along S. Pine. Mayor Goldsmith stated that he is looking into ways we can replace the sidewalk, stating that it is one of the worst sections.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve pay request #7 for loan project L17-6229. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Stauder, Glenn, Arkebauer, and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none, the motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith addressed the council to let them know that Roger Nuxoll has looked at the emergency raw water line. Roger Nuxoll addressed the council to let them know that He has been out to check on the raw water line and the depth is a lot deeper than he originally thought. Roger suggested that it should be directionally board. Roger stated that hopefully

because it is an emergency, we will be able to vote with at least a 3/5th vote to award the contract. If not we will have to put the project out for bids. Commissioner Glenn stated that he would like to do it the cheapest way. Mr. Nuxoll stated that he would look into how to get bids.

Commissioner Arkebauer stated that he has heard that the city would be providing Coalton water for longer than we thought. Mayor Goldsmith stated that is part of the reason he would like to have a new rate study done.

Commissioner Stauder stated that Hurst- Rosch has agreed to do the easement for the Village of Coalton force main. Commissioner Stauder made a motion to approve Hurst- Rosch to provide the easement. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Mayor Goldsmith stated that Beyers has not provided a contract. Discussion was held on Beyers land surveying.

Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to approve the pay request for the Union Street Storm Sewer project in the amount of \$ 179,705.00. Commissioner Stauder seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to approve the 2024 scheduled meeting dates. Commissioner Stauder seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Discussion was held on the SCADA system. Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve disbursement number 1 for \$90,000.00. Commissioner Arkebauer seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer, Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays none. The motion carried.

Discussion was held on the abandonment of an old road at the water plant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Arkebauer made a motion to go into executive session during its regular session at 7:42 P.M. to speak about the 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 Minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, for purpose of approval by the body or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06 of the Open Meeting Act (5ILCS 120/2 (c) (21). And

the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body (5ILCS 120/2) c) (6) Commissioner Glenn seconded the motion. Voting yes, Commissioners Glenn, Arkebauer; and Stauder and Mayor Goldsmith. Commissioner Morris was absent. Nays, none. The motion carried.

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

Other Business

Mayor Goldsmith stated that there are tiny changes that need to be made to the Public Works union contract, but there is nothing else to report from executive session.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Hill
City Clerk