

**CITY OF NIOTA
MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Commissioners
February 13, 2023**

Date of Approval: March 20, 2023

Approved by Commissioners: Brakebill and Dilbeck

Call to Order: A meeting of the City of Niota Board of Commissioners and Mayor was held in the Niota City Municipal Building, Niota, Tennessee, on February 13, 2023. The meeting convened at 6:00 P.M., Mayor Preece presiding, Jeannie Anderson as City Recorder.

Members in attendance: Commissioner's Brakebill, Dilbeck, Manney, and Ward were present.

Invocation: Commissioner Dilbeck

Pledge of Allegiance: Linda Ward

Reading of the Regular Minutes:

Commissioner Dilbeck made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 9, 2023 as read. Commissioner Manney, seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion passed.

Reports from the Commissioners, Members of the Governing Body and Other Officers:

Depot Committee – Depot Committee will be meeting on February 16, 2023 to discuss remodeling the Depot kitchen.

Mayor made a motion to approve the remodeling of the Depot kitchen, Commissioner Dilbeck seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

Reports from Members of the Governing Body:

Finance report: Jeannie Anderson gave the finance report that we are now 58.33% into the 2022-23 budget year and all is going well. Ms. Anderson reported that she will begin working on the 2023-2024 budget in the next couple of weeks and asked the commissioners to come in and discuss their needs for next fiscal year.

Commissioner Manney made a motion to accept the Finance reports as read, Commissioner Dilbeck seconded, all voted aye, motion passed.

Police report: Commissioner Ward gave the Police report stats for:

January: 2 arrests, 36 traffic stops, 23 traffic citations, 3 medical calls, 79 dispatched calls.
A total of \$5135.00 was paid in citations for the month.

Fire Department report: Chief Newberry reported that for the month of January there were 1 structure fire, 6 medical assists, 1 accident with injuries, 13 misc. calls.

Sewer Department report: No violations or overflows, new aerators are in, however, there was an issue with the wiring plans that will be addressed with the engineers.

Street Department report:

Commissioner Brakebill reported that the Street Dept has been working on drainage issues on Farrell Street and should be fixed within a few days. There is a portion of the sidewalk on Farrell Street that is in need of replacement.

Commissioner Brakebill made the motion to contract with Paul Medina for the sidewalk repair/replacement, Commissioner Manney seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion passed.

Water Department report: Commissioner Dilbeck reported that they are repainting all the fire hydrants in the system. 832 new AMR's have been installed with approximately 24 more left to be installed. Gravel is needed by the NWW office/Municipal building driveway and parking lot.

Commissioner Dilbeck made a motion to purchase gravel for the driveway and parking lot of the Municipal building, Commissioner Brakebill seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS:**a. Update on the City Stage:**

The building portion of the stage is completed. Bids are being taken on the electrical portion. Bricks to go on the base are being donated by Keith Bester. McMinn County Council has agreed to donate \$20,000 toward the stage and other city projects.

NEW BUSINESS:**a. Finance Dept: PEP Property Grant Resolution**

Commissioner Manney made the motion to accept the PEP Property Grant Resolution, Commissioner Brakebill seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

b. Water Dept: Property at Rarity Meadows, can a couple of lots be purchased for back taxes through the county.

Mayor made the motion to inquire with the county about the price to purchase a couple of lots for the water department to place a new water tank for the city, Commissioner Ward seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

c. Fire Dept: Length of Service Award Program – would allow the city to contribute to a State fund for the volunteer firefighters. There will be a qualifying and tracking process for each participant with a maximum number allowed to participate. The program would begin in July with the new fiscal year.

Commissioner Ward made the motion to approve the Length of Service Award Program for the city's volunteer firefighters, Commissioner Manney seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

d. Police Dept: Resignation of Officer Adam Cook as of February 12, 2023, hiring of Dale Greenlaw and adding Reserves to the police dept. A reservist works less than 20 hours a week with no fee to the city except for a psychological evaluation and a physical exam.

Commissioner Ward made the motion to accept Officer Cook's resignation as of February 12, 2023, Commissioner Manney seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

Commissioner Ward made the motion to hire Dale Greenlaw at the pay rate of \$10/hr to cross train in the police department office, then attend the police academy at no cost (under State program), will then raise his pay as a patrol officer. Commissioner Manney seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

Commissioner Ward made the motion to establish a police Reserves, will be less than 20 hours of work per week and no fee will be incurred to the City except for a psychological evaluation and a physical exam. Commissioner Brakebill seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

- e. **Ordinance 22-42 Liquor by the Drink:** 1st reading of Ordinance 22-42 Liquor by the Drink. Commissioner Manney made a motion to accept Ordinance 22-42 Liquor by the Drink, Commissioner Ward seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.
- f. **Updating of the Charter:** Changes to be made -Taking the Library out from under Finance, Raise time for City of Niota citizenship in order to run for an elected office from 1 to 2 years, remove that if appointed that the City Manager must live within the Niota City limits.
Mayor made the motion to update the City Charter with the following changes: Take the Library out from under Finance, Raise the time for City of Niota citizenship in order to run for an elected office from 1 year to 2 years, and remove that if appointed that the City Manager must live within the Niota City limits. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion, all voted aye, motion approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Next Board Meeting – 6:00p.m. – March 13, 2023
b. Tony Manney and Mark Ward have completed the Elected Officials Academy held January 24-26, 2023

Adjournment:

Commissioner Manney made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Dilbeck, all voted aye, meeting adjourned.

CITY RECORDER

MAYOR