

July 7, 2021

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session July 7, 2021 at 7:30 p.m., in the council room, located at 531 Main Street, Seneca, Kansas. Present were Mayor Joe Mitchell and council members Jim Mitchell, Steve Bennett, Kylee Bergstrom, Ray Shinn, Alice Lackey and Mike Stallbaumer. Also present were Tami Haverkamp and Matt Diehl.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 16, 2021. The motion was seconded by Kylee Bergstrom. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Mike Stallbaumer made a motion to approve the Appropriation Ordinance No. 1402. The motion was seconded by Kylee Bergstrom. All voted yes. Motion carried.

The city has to let the county clerk know prior to July 20 if they would like to exceed the revenue neutral rate. Jim Mitchell made a motion to notify the county clerk of the city's intent to exceed the revenue neutral rater of 31,409, with a proposed rate of 32.585 mills. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

The council discussed the budget timeline. The budget and its timeline will be worked on more during the next council meeting on July 21st.

The council discussed possible upgrades to several city departments. The street/maintenance department would like to replace the loader. The city has been putting alot into keeping the old loader going each year. They would trade in the old one to cover part of the cost of a new loader.

The front office at city hall is needing updated, which includes updated work spaces. Also mentioned was making the upstairs more of a common place that could be used by many different committees or clubs. The council asked for possible grants to be looked into for this project. A suggestion was made to form a building committee for this project.

Many roads need fixed in town with Main Street from 7th to 11th being a priority. Roanoke is also greatly in need of repairs and possibly needs widened to make it easier for trucks since it is part of the truck route. It was discussed about replacing the bricks with something such as concrete. Also mentioned was 11th Street north of 36 and South 8th Street. The council asked Tami to find out what the agreement is with the county on maintenance.

The electrical line in the alley south of Main from 3rd to 11th is needs replaced. This will need to be hired out as we don't have enough manpower for the task. Jim Mitchell mentioned that all supplies to perform project should be cheaper in a year and asked if it can wait. It was suggested to get an updated estimate for the electrical committee to review.

This year the lift station will be replaced at Sunset Drive. The lift station at CR is also needing replaced but that will be at a later date. The council asked to request a proposal from Wilson to fix up the lagoon. We could use the funds of the American Rescue Plan for the sewer project.

The council discussed getting the police department body cams. They currently have voice and dash cams. Tami was asked to get more clarification on the pricing of the body cams. The council also asked to look into the possibility of the city using the county gun range for police training.

The fire truck that was ordered to replace Truck 1 isn't expected to arrive until the end of the year or later. When this arrives Truck 1 will have the pump rebuilt. The council suggested asking the fire department for a ten-year plan for their needs.

Discussion about possible recreation upgrades also took place. The council would like views from several different groups in the community on these possibilities. Possible ideas included indoor pool, a 3rd baseball field out west, a dog park or possibly a splash park. It was asked to form a committee for ideas.

The council discussed updating the fence around the cemetery and asked to look into possibilities.

At 9:10 Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 20 minutes and to open back up at 9:30. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to extend the executive session until 9:45. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried. At 9:45 the council came out of executive session.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Alice Lackey. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk