

October 4, 2023

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session October 4, 2023 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, Joe Schmelzle, Steve Bennett, Mike Stallbaumer and Ray Shinn. Also present were Steve Brooks, Assistant City Attorney Luke Sunderland, Brian Rusche, Dylan Blevins, Robert Wolfgang, Matt Diehl, and Michele Spring.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 20, 2023. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. Jim Mitchell, Joe Schmelzle, and Steve Bennett voted yes. Mike Stallbaumer and Ray Shinn abstained due to their absence at the September 20, 2023. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1455. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the Glatczaks Plat. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Clete Kramer, Kris Enneking, and Bethany Ohlsen expressed interest in filling the open Ward 2 council position. Alice Lackey stepped down from the position at the September 20, 2023 meeting. The council members casted their votes and Mayor Mitchell read the votes. The council unanimously voted Kris Enneking to fill the unexpired term. Steve Bennett made a motion to have Kris Enneking fill the unexpired Ward 2 position. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried. Kris will take oath at the October 18, 2023 meeting.

City Administrator Steve Brooks provided an update on the fitness court. The City of Seneca has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from Blue Cross and Blue Sheild for the project. Mayor Mitchell mentioned that the city would match the Blue Cross and Blue Sheild funds but would like outside support for the balance of the funding. The project estimated cost is \$210,000.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that the city may qualify for a KCC Grid Resilience Grant for the Electrical 3rd-11th Project. He also mentioned there are grant opportunities for water improvements. Steve will be finding out more information about the grants.

City Administrator Steve Brooks presented an option for budget software. The budget software would allow the council and department heads to see the budget in real time. The council was not in favor of the budget software.

City Administrator Steve Brooks stated that he feels we need request for qualifications from engineers before starting projects for the city, the council unanimously agreed.

Ray Shinn announced the sales tax received for September was \$90,460.16.

At 7:55 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for non-elected personnel for 10 minutes until 8:05 p.m. to include the governing body, Dylan, Luke, and Steve with possible action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:05 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to extend executive session for non-elected personnel for 5 minutes until 8:10 p.m. to include the governing body, Dylan, Luke, and Steve. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:10 p.m. the meeting reopened, but no action was taken.

At 8:10 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to enter into executive session for 20 minutes until 8:30 p.m. for attorney-client privilege to include the governing body, Steve, Martin, and Brian with possible action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:30 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to extend executive session for 20 more minutes until 8:50 p.m. for attorney-client privilege to include the governing body, Steve, Martin, and Brian. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:50 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to extend executive session for 5 more minutes until 8:55 p.m. for attorney-client privilege to include the governing body, Steve, Martin, and Brian. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:55 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

Ray Shinn made a motion to terminate the contract with Reed Environmental. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Steve Bennett made a motion for Mayor Mitchell to sign the revised timely with AHRs for the 7th-11th Main Street project. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk