

December 6, 2023

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session December 6, 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 Ray Shinn, Joe Schmelzle, Steve Bennett, Kris Enneking, Jim Mitchell, and Mike Stallbaumer. Also present were Steve Brooks, Brian Rusche, Luke Sunderland, Matt Diehl, and Michele Spring.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Mike Stallbaumer made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1459. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve Resolution No. 12062023 City Holidays 2024. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve the request from Seneca Area Chamber, giving the Christmas Light Up Seneca Decoration Contest winners a \$50 electric utility credit on their accounts. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. Discussion was had before the vote. Kris Enneking asked how crediting customers utilities would affect the accounting books. Jim Mitchell stated that he doesn't believe the city needs to get involved donating to this cause. Mayor Joe Mitchell stated that he is happy with what the chamber does and feels they can spend the support money the city gives them on what they would like or feels is necessary. Mike Stallbaumer agreed with the Mayor and stated that we needed to stay away from crediting electric utility accounts. After much discussion Ray Shinn retracted his motion and made a motion to deny the request from Seneca Area Chamber to give credits on electric utility bills of the Christmas Light Up Seneca Contest. The motion to deny was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Mike Stallbaumer made a motion to approve the 2024 Cereal Malt Beverage Applications. There were 7 applications received – Ray's Applemarket; Henry's Deli; Silver Creek Capital; Dollar General Store; Casey's General Store; 36 Alleys, LLC; Freddy's Pizza Palace. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to table the Seneca Aquatic Center Pool Painting action item for discussion. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried. Brian Rusche notified the council that the Seneca Aquatic Center is needing painted again. After much discussion the council asked Brian to seek bids for a paint job to be done in Fall 2024.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that the city website is dated and would like to update it. Steve has been in contact with Apptegy. Apptegy would be able to make over the website plus they have the ability of an app and push notifications. Apptegy would have a one-time fee of \$5500 and an annual fee of \$6900. Flint Hills Design currently host the city website. Flint Hills does not offer app or push notification capabilities. They could update the current website at an estimated cost between \$4500 and \$6000. The hosting fee would remain the same at \$59 per month. The council guided Steve to reach back out to Flint Hills Design for a full quote.

City Administrator Steve Brooks has been approached about the city ward layout and making sure they are evenly split for representation of the city council. After much discussion the council asked for a more defined residents per ward break out before they make any decision.

Ray Shinn announced the sales tax received for November was \$112,309.44.

At 8:25 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 20 minutes until 8:45 p.m. for the preliminary discussion of non-elected personnel (pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)) to include the governing body, Assistant City Attorney Luke Sunderland, and City Administrator Steve Brooks with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:45 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go back into open session. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kris Enneking made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk