

December 20, 2023

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session December 20, 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, Jordan Weaver, Andrea Beyer, Bruce Deters, Celene Holthaus, Sara Schmelzle, Tom Saitta, Gerry Bieker, Tyson McGreer, Martin Mishler, Robert Wolfgang, Matt Diehl, and Michele Spring.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held December 6, 2023 with one correction. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1460. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Celene Holthaus with United for Youth and Sara Schmelzle from Nemaha Central SADD gave an update on what each of the organizations were doing and also thanked the council for the \$2500 donation that City Administrator Steve Brooks approved on 11/30/23.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into discussion with KMEA. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried. KMEA representatives Tom Saitta, Gerry Bieker, and Tyson McGreer presented how Seneca could be affected with what is happening with Evergy. The city is facing the following challenges: Cost of capacity rising; Volatility of Market Energy; and City Interconnect with Evergy in need of upgrade. KMEA proposed the following: Proposal #1 Evergy – No redundancy at transformer level; Proposal #2A City Staff/KMEA – No redundancy at transformer level; Proposal #2B City Staff/KMEA with redundancy at transformer level; Proposal #2C City/KMEA redundancy, one transformer and generation. Jim Mitchell made a motion to table the decision until mid-January. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to go into discussion about the fitness court. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All voted yes. Motion carried. Jordan Weaver presented the latest updates on the fitness court. Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve placing the order for the Fitness Court with the understanding that Jordan will still seek donations to fund. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into discussion about cameras. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried. City Administrator Steve Brooks received three bids for cameras/conferencing packages. Logitech Rally Conferencing Package - \$15,154.00: self-installation; no design support; not certain of compatibility with common social media platforms. INA alert conference package - \$17,855.60: professional installation; design support; compatible with common social media platforms; equipment support; and ties with future needs for external cameras. Hopps Sound - \$22,833.99: professional installation; design support; compatible with common social media platforms; and equipment support. Ray Shinn made a motion to accept the INA alert Conferencing Package contingent on Steve checking on warranty; making sure it wasn't an old model; and what charges are if called to work on system. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Steve Bennett made a motion to go into discussion about the website. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried. After discussion, Jim Mitchell made a motion to move forward

with Flint Hills Web Design updating the website for a one-time estimated cost of \$4500-\$6000. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

City Administrator Steve Brooks gave an update on the sewer lagoon de-sludging project. City Attorney Martin Mishler feels we can move forward with the termination the agreement with Reed Environmental and move forward with AMS.

City Administrator Steve Brooks gave an update on Statements of Qualifications that were received from 5 engineering firms.

Andrea Beyer presented an update on code enforcement activities that she has been dealing with.

At 9:12 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes until 9:22 p.m. for the preliminary discussion of non-elected personnel (pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(b)) to include the governing body, City Attorney Martin Mishler, and City Administrator Steve Brooks with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 9:22 p.m., the open meet reconvened.

Kris Enneking made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Michele Spring  
City Clerk