

May 15, 2024

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session May 15, 2024 at 7:30 p.m., in the council room, located at 531 Main Street, Seneca, Kansas. Present were Mayor Joe Mitchell and council members Joe Schmelzle, Steve Bennett, Kris Enneking, Jim Mitchell, Mike Stallbaumer, and Ray Shinn. Also present were City Administrator Steve Brooks, Tami Norris, Brian Rusche, Luke Sunderland, Robert Wolfgang, Matt Diehl, and Michele Spring.

Mike Stallbaumer made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held May 1, 2024. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1470. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Tami Norris with Blue Cross and Blue Shield was present for questions on the city's health and dental renewal. The city's contribution rate is up 4% for the new plan year starting August 1, 2024. Ray Shinn made a motion to approve the renewal of employee health and dental plans and employer contribution rates. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Mike Stallbaumer made a motion to approve the hire of Russell Lierz as maintenance worker starting May 20, 2024 at the rate of \$18.20 per hour. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried. Russell is to replace Mike Hiltibrand who announced his retirement date of August 1, 2024.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the hire of two summer maintenance workers. Cole Hermesch is returning for a third year at the rate of \$12.75 per hour effective immediately. Ray Blevins will start his first year at the rate of \$12.00 per hour. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to accept the Preliminary Engineering Report from Midwest Engineering for Professional Potable Water System Services at a lump sum cost of \$30,000; plus, the cost of meetings and travel of a budget of \$2500 and reimbursable expenses budget of \$500. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Brian Rusche presented his list of curb and gutter projects for 2024. He has asked two companies for bids that will be presented at a later meeting.

City Administrator Steve Brooks gave an update on Ruppe Industries. Dollar General plans to move forward with the new building. The next steps are plan sets and drainage that will be discussed in the permitting process.

At 7:50 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes until 7:55 p.m. for non-elected personnel to include the governing body, Luke, and Steve with no action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 7:55 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.

At 7:56 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 20 minutes until 8:16 p.m. for attorney-client privilege to include the governing body, Luke, and Steve with no action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:16 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 8:17 p.m.

Michele Spring  
City Clerk