

July 3, 2024

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session July 3, 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, Dylan Blevins, Luke Sunderland, Robert Wolfgang, Matt Diehl, and Michele Spring.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held June 19, 2024 with one name correction. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

John Howard spoke in public comment asking the council to consider allowing fireworks to be shot off on July 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, which are the Saturday and Sunday following the July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday.

City Administrator announced that he had a resolution drafted if they chose to go that route. Mayor Mitchell asked if in the future this could be handled in city hall instead of individuals coming in front of the council. A few council members stated they believe this should come in front of the council. The Mayor asked if we can approve an extension for fireworks without a resolution.

Mike Stallbaumer made a motion to approve Resolution 07032024 a Resolution to Temporarily Suspend the Enforcement of Dates for Fireworks Discharge in the City of Seneca. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1473. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to table Ordinance No. 1442 An Ordinance Amending in Part Portions of the Current Code of the City of Seneca, Kansas, Regulating the Licensing of Contractors Performing Work within the City of Seneca, Kansas; and, Repealing any Conflicting Ordinances or Resolutions. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried. Many questions arose from this Ordinance that the City Administrator is going to look into such as: does this include lawn irrigation; does this include handyman jobs; does this include companies that has individuals employed; what is considered a qualifying individual?

Mayor Joe Mitchell announced Steve Brooks's recommendation to consider the Council President Appointment be circulated on an annual basis. Many council members stated that they would like it to remain the same. Kris Enneking stated that she thought it would be nice to be rotated but was fine with it remaining the same if that is what everyone wanted. Joe Schmelzle made a motion to reappoint Steve Bennett as Council President. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

On June 19<sup>th</sup>, the Governing Body conducted an annual review of the City Administrator. The Mayor asked for a motion to authorize a salary increase to \$105,000 per year to be made retroactive to June 19<sup>th</sup>, his anniversary date. Ray Shinn made a motion to increase the City Administrator salary increase to \$105,000 per year. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Dylan Blevins presented an option to make the gun range safer. He suggested eliminating one of the two berms to make one bigger berm by moving dirt and using old light poles and truck mats. Mayor Mitchell stated they could possibly get a better control of who goes out to the gun range. Currently gun club members have a code and other individuals can go to dispatch and receive a key for \$5 and the key is to be returned. Recently the City has been notified of 2 individuals behind the gun range that each have holes in the building. Mayor Mitchell announced that safety is a major concern to him and he would like to see more control over the gun range and also the berm project done.

City Administrator Steve Brooks asked where they would like to see with the Revenue Neutral Rate land in the budget. The council unanimously agreed to keep the budget where it has been landing. This years Revenue Neutral Rate is 30.879 mills, the targeted RNR will be 32.583.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that we did not receive the Cost Share Grant from KDOT.

Ray Shinn announced the sales tax received in June was \$115,172.02.

At 8:20 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes until 8:50 p.m. for non-elected personnel to include the governing body, Luke, and Steve with possible action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:30 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 8:30 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion go into executive session for 15 minutes until 8:45 p.m. for land acquisition to include the governing body, Luke, Dylan, and Steve with no action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:46 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