

July 17, 2024

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session July 17, 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, Jim Mitchell, and Mike Stallbaumer. Kris Enneking and Ray Shinn were absent. Also present were City Administrator Steve Brooks, Dylan Blevins, Brian Rusche, Bruce Deters, April Swartz, Martin Mishler, Robert Wolfgang, Matt Diehl, and Michele Spring.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held July 3, 2024. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1474. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Steve Bennett made a motion to approve 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 Joe Schmelzle. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

April Swartz with Varney & Associates, CPA presented the clean 2023 Audit Report.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to notify the county that we plan to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All present voted yes. Motion carried. City Administrator Steve Brooks notified the council of the status and timeline of the budget.

July 19: Notify County Clerk of Intent to Exceed the RNR

August 1: Budget Workshop session with Council and Department Heads

August 7: Budget Reveal/Last Look

August 16: Notify Paper of Hearings for Exceeding RNR and Budget Hearing for August 21 Edition

September 4: RNR Hearing and Budget Hearing Combined

September 18: Last scheduled meeting to certify budget to County Clerk

Steve Bennett made a motion to accept the resignation of Phil Steinlage from the Seneca Police Department effective July 28, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Steve Bennett made a motion to accept the resignation from Justin Knowles as Electrical Journeyman effective July 29, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to accept the retirement of Mike Hiltibrand as Maintenance Worker effective July 26, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion for the City Administrator to advertise for an Electrical Journeyman that will handle future electrical and generation needs at the pay cap of what he believes is fair. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that he has been doing research on the gun range. He is planning a meeting with the gun club president and Chief Blevins about adding a Rangemaster for the gun range.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that he would like to attend Certified Public Manager school. The school course cost is \$3900 and will begin in January and conclude in December of 2025. The Mayor asked Steve to bring this back as an action item at a later meeting.

City Administrator Steve Brooks gave an update on the water loan. Midwest Engineering feels the numbers are in order for when they were written. With market trends we could see up to a 15% increase for inflationary cost and a 15% increase for Build America, Buy America requirements that are attached to the SRF loan. High Service Pumps weren't originally factored in but Midwest Engineering feels they should have been. The city is planning on also adding softening to the backend of the project. Steve mentioned that he could contact the county again for possible funding from their ARPA money.

At 8:10 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes until 8:20 p.m. for non-elected personnel to include the governing body, Dylan, and Steve with no action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:20 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 8:20 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion go into executive session for 45 minutes until 9:05 p.m. for attorney-client privilege to include the governing body, Martin, Brian, and Steve with Bruce Deters on call with no action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

At 9:05 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 9:05 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes until 9:15 p.m. for contractual to include the governing body and Steve. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

At 9:15 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion to go back into open session. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All present 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 9:17 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk