

August 21, 2024

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session August 21, 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, Ray Shinn, Kris Enneking, Jim Mitchell, and Mike Stallbaumer. Also present were City Administrator Steve Brooks, Bruce Deters, Brian Rusche, Jordan Weaver, Dylan Blevins, Andrea Beyer, Kylee Bergstrom, Ellie Hayne, Gordon Olson, Martin Mishler, Robert Wolfgang, Matt Diehl, and Michele Spring.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held August 7, 2024. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. Kris Enneking, Joe Schmelzle, Mike Stallbaumer, Steve Bennett, and Jim Mitchell voted yes. Ray Shinn abstained due to absence at the August 7, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Gordon Olson spoke on behalf of Bob and Helen Oliver during public comment on concerns over the condemnation of 501 Merton Street Lot 1.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1476. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Mike Stallbaumer made a motion to approve Resolution No. 08142024 A Resolution Finding that a Nuisance Exists and Seeking Abatement of Certain Violations of the Environmental Code Codified in the Code of the City of Seneca Article 7.4 et. Seq., and Assessing the Costs of such Abatement Against the Property. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. Jim Mitchell, Steve Bennett, Mike Stallbaumer, Joe Schmelzle, and Kris Enneking voted yes. Ray Shinn abstained due to his absence at the August 7, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

Ellie Hayne with the NE Kansas Arts Foundation presented her request for Chalk the Walk. Chalk the Walk would be held on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup> on Main Street between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Street. This would be a free contest for all ages and with winners being announced during the Second Saturday musical performance. Mayor Mitchell expressed his concern about the chalk on the sidewalk could be tracked into businesses and asked how businesses felt about that. Ellie stated that she would talk to the business owners in that block of Main. Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve Chalk the Walk contingent on the businesses approval. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ellie Hayne also asked the council for their consideration to allow the NE Kansas Arts Foundation to paint a mural on the south side of the bathroom at North City Park. Ray Shinn made a motion to allow NE Kansas Arts Foundation to go forward with the project as long as the council gets to approve what is painted on this wall. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Steve Bennett made a motion to approve the request from Seneca Area Chamber for Street Closure of Main Street from 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Street on October 12, 2024, 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. during annual Oktoberfest. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Steve Bennett made a motion to approve the request from Seneca Area Chamber for Street Closure of Main Street from 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Street on October 26, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. during annual Seneca Spooktacular. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the request from Seneca Area Chamber of Special Event CMB License on October 12, 2024 from 3:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. during the annual Oktoberfest. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kylee Bergstrom with the Seneca Area Chamber and Seneca Downtown Impact presented a request for additional banner brackets for Veteran’s Banner Program. The city currently has 18 brackets and 21 Veteran applications were received. The new brackets would be upgraded to spring-loaded brackets. Kris Enneking made a motion for the city to purchase 3 additional spring-loaded brackets for these banners. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried. Mayor Mitchell also asked how the Chamber does with the City’s funding and stated if it needs to be upgraded to come in front of the council for the request.

Mayor Mitchell asked City Administrator Steve Brooks to get an RFP for GIS Mapping.

Brian Rusche presented his request of Safe Slides option B for Seneca Aquatic Center Slides resurface for \$44,022 plus lift rental of \$510/week and R. Torrey Construction, Inc. for resurfacing pool and mushroom for \$89,750 plus \$15.00/ft for caulking if needed. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Bids for Slides and Pool were:

	Pool	Slide	Total Bid for Both
R. Torrey	\$ 89,750	\$54,370	\$144,120
Splashtacular	\$132,355	\$68,925	\$201,280
Safe Slide	\$162,089	\$44,022	\$206,111
JF McGivern	\$ 93,800		

\*JF McGivern bid \$12,300 for caulking and R. Torrey bid \$15.00 per linear ft of caulking needed.

\*Torrey has a 3-year warranty on pool paint & Safe Slide has a 2-year warranty on slide gelcoat.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the contract between the City of Seneca and R. Torrey Construction for Seneca Aquatic Center pool and mushroom resurfacing as presented. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the contract between the City of Seneca and Safe Slide for Seneca Aquatic Center slide resurfacing as presented. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Brian Rusche presented his request of dirt work for potentially moving the soccer fields. The council asked for the potential soccer fields be flagged off so they could look the land over. Jim Mitchell made a motion to table the decision for dirt work until the council has had time to observe the flags that will be placed. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

City Administrator Steve Brooks asking the council to allow City Crews to cut trees over streets to keep transportation routes open. Mayor Mitchell asked Steve to come back to a later council meeting and present his plan.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve the 2025 Pay Plan. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

City Administrator Steve Brooks asked the council how they would like the department heads to report to the council of what they have done. The council unanimously agreed that they would like the department heads to report annually in the budget workshop.

City Administrator Steve Brooks gave an update on the 2025 Budget.

At 8:40 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes until 8:45 p.m. for attorney-client privilege to include the governing body, Martin, and Steve with no action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. 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.

At 8:45p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion go into executive session for 10 minutes until 8:55 p.m. for non-elected personnel to include the governing body, and Steve with no action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All present voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:55 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.

Kris Enneking made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Michele Spring  
City Clerk