

January 15, 2025

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session January 15, 2025 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, Ray Shinn, Kris Enneking, Steve Bennett, Mike Stallbaumer, and Jim Mitchell. Also present were City Administrator Steve Brooks, Assistant City Attorney Luke Sunderland, Brian Rusche, Dylan Blevins, Chad Jones, Kyler Ganstrom, Lavin Stallbaumer, Lacy Bergman, Brad & Serena Huerter, Kylee Bergstrom, Jeff Stallbaumer, David Korte, and Michele Spring.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 2, 2025. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Lacy Bergman spoke in public comment about her concerns with food trucks and the food truck ordinance.

Water District #3 Chairman David Korte and employee Jeff Stallbaumer spoke about concerns with the contract being approved for wholesale water.

Mike Stallbaumer made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1486. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1450, An Ordinance Amending in Part Portions of the Current Code of the City of Seneca, Kansas, Regulating Utilities and Services Within the City of Seneca, Kansas; and, Repealing any Conflicting Ordinances or Resolutions. This will allow the adjustment of the water rates. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All voted yes.

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve Resolution No. 01152025, A Resolution to Grant an Exception in Accordance with Seneca City Code Section 5.20.161 to Permit the Sale, Possession, and Consumption of Alcoholic Liquor During an Event to be held in Private Owned Business Property. This will allow the Seneca Area Chamber's event Wine About Winter. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the consideration of the Water Rate Agreement with Rural Water District Number 3. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the consideration of the amendment of SRO Contract with USD#115. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to accept the consideration of Jaycee Field being the site location for Substation/Generation Electrical Project. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to deny the consideration of recommendation from the Planning Commission to allow signage. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to accept the consideration to continue Neighborhood Revitalization Plan. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion accept the consideration of resignation of Austin Watts as Seneca Police Patrolman. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

City Administrator Steve Brooks gave an update on the Substation/Generation Project.

City Administrator Steve Brooks gave a public show of appreciation to the public works staff for the job they did through this last winter storm. He also mentioned appreciation for the Utility Department for the tree trimming they did limiting disruptions to utility services and public access.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that the city closed on the lot sale for the new Dollar General Market Store. They will have a construction meeting with a couple committee members on Monday, February 3rd at 8:00 a.m.

At 8:20 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 20 minutes until 8:40 p.m. for Contractual to include the governing body, Luke Sunderland, Brian Rusche, and Steve Brooks with possible action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:40 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. No action was taken.

At 8:42 p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 18 minutes for Non-Elected Personnel until 9:00 p.m. to include the governing body, Luke Sunderland, Dylan Blevins, and Steve Brooks with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 9:00p.m. Jim Mitchell made a motion to go back into open session. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried. No action was taken.

Kris Enneking made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk