

March 19, 2025

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session March 19, 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, Jordan Weaver, Bruce Deters, Brian Rusche, Beth Niehues, Tom Saitta, Tyson McGreer, Kylee Bergstrom, Kate Haynie, Teresa McAnerney, Chad Jones, and Michele Spring.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to make an amendment to the agenda to reverse the order of Action Items 5 and 6. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 5, 2025. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. Jim Mitchell, Ray Shinn, Mike Stallbaumer, Joe Schmelzle, and Kris Enneking voted yes. Steve Bennett abstained due to his absence at the March 5, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Beth Niehues spoke in public comment to formally oppose the rezone of Block 91.

At 7:34 p.m. Ray Shinn made a motion to open the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Mitchell asked if anyone wanted to speak during the public hearing. No comments were made by the public.

At 7:36 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to close the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1490. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve Resolution Number 03192025-01: A Resolution to Regulate and Establish Electrical Rates for Electricity provided by the City of Seneca, Nemaha County, Kansas to Customers. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve Resolution Number 03192025-02: Neighborhood Revitalization Notice Resolution. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Teresa McAnerney provided an update for Northeast Kansas Enterprise Facilitation. Teresa requested city funding of \$5000 per year for 2025, 2026, and 2027 for this program. Ray Shinn made a motion to approve \$5000 per year for the years 2025, 2026, and 2027. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kylee Bergstrom presented the Seneca Area Chamber and Downtown Impact's annual report. Kylee requested 5% increased funding from the city for the next 5 years starting 2026. Mayor Mitchell advised the council that he agreed for 5% for one year, but not for 5 years. Mayor Mitchell thanked Kylee for what she does for the Chamber and the City of Seneca. Kris Enneking made a motion to approve a

funding increase of 5% for Seneca Area Chamber/SDI for 2026. This will make the city's appropriation \$44,100 for 2026. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Brian Rusche, City Superintendent, presented his request for a Skid Steer. Brian received two bids for Skid Steers and will trade in the current 2000 Model 1845c Case Skidloader. Bruna Implement bid a Case SV280B for a trade in price of \$39,950. The Case Skid Steer has a two-year warranty included and an option for 2 more years of warranty added on for \$2650. Heritage Tractor bid a John Deere 320G for a trade in price of \$46,100. Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve Brian's request of the Case machine for a total of \$42,600 with the extra warranty included. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Brian Rusche, City Superintendent, presented his request for 2025 Chip and Sealing. Buildex total price for Haydite Rock for 2025 is \$46,320. Trucking through Hammes Trucking is \$9000. Vance Brother's EA 150 oil is \$48,060 delivered. The total cost of sealing approximately 60 blocks of street is \$103,380. Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve Brian's request for 2025 Chip and Sealing as presented. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Tyson McGreer presented a Master Service Agreement for engineering, procurement and construction services for work performed between Kansas Municipal Energy Agency Mid-States for the City of Seneca. Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Tom Saitta presented the Foley Contract for 3 generators. The total cost for the generators is \$8,270,000. \$7,443,000 would be due within 30 days of delivery which is estimated to be September 24, 2027. \$827,000 would be due within 30 days of invoice after delivery which is estimated to be January 24, 2028. Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the Foley Contract. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the SBS Insurance presented at last meeting for EMC Insurance with the transmission lines included for \$193,721. The new rates for insurance to be effective 4/1/25 through 4/1/26. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve the consideration from Nemaha Central High School of Street Closure of Main Street from 3rd Street to 6th Street for Annual Prom Grand March on Saturday, April 26, 2026, from 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Julie Bergman presented an update on the fiber project currently being done by Rainbow Communication.

Jordan Weaver presented a request for proposals for a third ballfield between Swisher and Seneca West.

City Administrator Steve Brooks stated how he handles city business and advises the council.

At 8:53 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 20 minutes until 9:13 p.m. for Attorney-Client Privilege to include the governing body, Luke Sunderland, and Steve Brooks with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 9:13 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 9:14 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 15 minutes until 9:29 p.m. for Contractual to include the governing body and Steve Brooks with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 9:29 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.

Kris Enneking made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk