

May 21, 2025

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session May 21, 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, Steve Bennett, Kris Enneking, Jim Mitchell, and Mike Stallbaumer. Also present were City Administrator Steve Brooks, City Attorney Martin Mishler, Brian Rusche, Jordan Weaver, Kim Linck, Bruce Deters, Tracy Rusche, and Michele Spring.

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held May 7, 2025. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. Ray Shinn, Steve Bennett, Mike Stallbaumer, and Joe Schmelzle voted yes. Kris Enneking and Jim Mitchell abstained due to their absence at the May 7, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance Number 1494. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kim Linck with Varney and Associates presented a clean 2025 audit. Ray Shinn made a motion to approve the 2025 audit. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve an application from Saint Peter and Paul Church, St. Ann's Altar Society for a Special Event Cereal Malt Beverage License to hold a beer garden from 5:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, August 31, 2025 during the annual Labor Day Picnic. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve the consideration of appointments of Tom Haug as Fire Chief; Dylan Blevins as Chief of Police; Scott Anson as Municipal Judge; and Michele Spring as City Clerk. The motion was seconded by Steve Bennett. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve the hires of Logan Snell and Abigail Palmeri as summer help employees, both at \$12.00 per hour. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the consideration approval of advertisement for employment for Public Works Department for a retirement coming at the end of August. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jordan Weaver presented a request for consideration of Tiny Robot. Tiny Robot is an option of robotic paint applicators that will improve processes that the city currently perform. It could be used to paint ballfields; and street parking lines and crosswalks. A second quote for applicator was also submitted by TurfTank. Mike Stallbaumer made a motion to table the consideration of a request of purchase of Tiny Robot to allow city employees time to gather information requested by City Council. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve the consideration of approval of RFP from Midwest Engineering for Engineering services on Water Treatment Plant. RFP's were sent to two engineering firms, but Midwest Engineering was the only firm to submit a proposal. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Steve Brooks announced that the State of Kansas has changed how they allow the use and sale of fireworks, but does not suggest changing our ordinance.

Steve Brooks announced an update on electric project. Evergy has sent an agreement for consideration to upgrade relays to allow bidirectional protection on the 34KV breaker. This upgrade will cost the City of Seneca \$17,000.

Steve Brooks announced that he would need a committee meeting for the Judge and Attorney; and one involving the Chamber.

At 8:10 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes until 8:15 p.m. for Non-Elected Personnel to include the governing body, Martin Mishler, and Steve Brooks with possible action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:15 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 8:15 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 15 minutes until 8:30 p.m. for Non-Elected Personnel to include the governing body, Martin Mishler, Tracy Rusche, Bruce Deters, and Steve Brooks with possible action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:30 p.m., Joe Schmelzle made a motion to extend executive session for 15 minutes until 8:45 p.m. for Non-Elected Personnel to include the governing body, Martin Mishler, Tracy Rusche, Bruce Deters, and Steve Brooks with possible action to be taken. 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. No action was taken.

At 8:46 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 5 minutes until 8:51 p.m. to for Non-Elected Personnel to include the governing body, Martin Mishler, Tracy Rusche, and Steve Brooks. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:51 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go back into open session. The motion was seconded by Mike Stalbaumer. 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 8:53 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk