

September 17, 2025

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session September 17, 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, Jim Mitchell, and Kris Enneking. Councilmember Mike Stallbaumer was absent. Also present were City Administrator Steve Brooks, City Attorney Luke Sunderland, Brian Rusche, Jordan Weaver, Scott Heinen, Heidi Wolfgang, and Michele Spring.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Kris Enneking made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried. Consent agenda items:

1. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held September 3, 2025.
2. Appropriation Ordinance Number 1502
3. Hay Contracts for Maxwell Spring to Brandon Ohlsen and Airport to Cole Deters.

Old Business:

Scott Heinen with Kelly Hills Unmanned Systems (Heinen Brothers) came in front of the council to present a request of improvements at Seneca Municipal Airport and a possible long-term lease. At Kelly Hills expense they would like to possibly construct UAV (drone) Incubator Test Pads or Hangers. Scott is willing to help the city in applications for grants with Kansas Airport Improvement Program for possibly building a small pilot lounge.

Jordan Weaver has spoken with Sylvester Skoch family members Lisa Moser and Michael Skoch. They have reached an agreement on benches, bushes, lighting, and layout with Jordan and the recreation committee. Ray Shinn made a motion to approve the updated Skoch Park Plan. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that the GIS Mapping is in its final stages and showed the council what the capabilities are with it.

New Business:

Brian Rusche came in front of the council to present a request to purchase a second bucket truck from Friendly Auto Source for \$41,000. With the cost, Friendly Auto Source is also including a bucket cover and wire reel. This used truck is ¼ the cost of a new truck. Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the purchase of the bucket truck from Friendly Auto Source for \$41,000. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the consideration of the resignation of Tim Heinen as public work employee. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:00 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 10 minutes until 8:10 p.m. for non-elected personnel to include the governing body, Steve, and Luke with possible action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:10 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to extend executive session for 10 minutes until 8:20 p.m. for non-elected personnel to include the governing body, Steve, and Luke with possible action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes.

At 8:20 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go back into open session. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. 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 8:21 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk