

October 15, 2025

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

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes.

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

1. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held October 1, 2025.
2. Appropriation Ordinance Number 1504

Old Business:

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve reimbursing the fire department for mileage at the IRS rate of \$0.70 per mile for their recent trip pulling the Stutz to Michigan. The council suggested having the fire department apply through Travel and Tourism when having trips like this in the future. The fire department brought in the motel receipts, fuel receipts, and mileage for consideration of reimbursement. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve the consideration of concrete work at Skoch Park to be done by AHRS. AHRS was the only bidder to submit, as others were too busy to commit to the timeline given. AHRS bid came in at \$21,045 and it will take them approximately one week to complete the project. The motion was seconded by Ray Shinn. All voted yes. Motion carried.

New Business:

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve the consideration of the hire of Dale Mclin as Patrolman at the rate of \$24.00 per hour. Dale has a Missouri Certification that will be recognized with a two-week training completion as Kansas and Missouri recognize reciprocity. The motion was seconded by Joe Schmelzle. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Joe Schmelzle made a motion to approve the recommendation from Planning Commission for renewal of appointments. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried. Two terms didn't get renewed last year and will be 2-year terms to stay in correct cycle. The Chairman and Co-Chairman positions are voted on by the Committee annually.

AJ Heinen -Co-Chairman; Term to expire September 2027

Alan Lierz; Term to expire September 2027

Clete Kramer; Term to expire September 2028

Jim Schmelzle; Term to expire September 2028

Galen Niehues reappoint as Chairman; term not expired

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that Nemaha County is interested in purchasing a small portion of land by the horse arena from the city. City Attorney Luke Sunderland stated that the land

would need to be surveyed if the City wished to sale off the land. Mayor Mitchell stated that possibly other negotiations could be made other than just money.

Ray Shinn made a motion to approve the consideration of purchase of a used Charger from KHP for \$31,900. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried. KHP has many used vehicles to choose from with around 49,500 miles at that price. They also come with a 100,000 miles warranty. Other bids were for new vehicles: Durango from N.V. Motors for \$47,715.90; Durango from Allen Samuels for \$51,368.86; Ford Explorer from Honeyman Ford for \$53,352. The brand new vehicles would also need to be uplifted which comes at extra cost around \$7,000.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced a committee meeting was recently had regarding moving forward with the new ballfield. More information and numbers will be at a later meeting.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that the Engineering Contract with Midwest Engineering Group was accepted and now in the hands of the Engineer. The next step for the Engineer should be getting the Pilot Study going.

At 8:07 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 15 minutes until 8:22 p.m. for attorney-client privilege to include the governing body, Steve, Andrea, and Luke with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:22 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go back into open session. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. No action taken.

At 8:23 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session for 15 minutes until 8:38 p.m. for non-elected personnel to include the governing body, Steve, Brian, and Luke with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:38 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 8:39 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk