

August 19, 2026

The governing body of the City of Seneca met in regular session August 19, 2026 at 7:30 p.m., in the council room, located at 531 Main Street, Seneca, Kansas. Present were Mayor Joe Mitchell and council members Jim Mitchell, Mike Stallbaumer, Jacee Corby, Steve Bennett, and Kris Enneking. Ray Shinn was absent. Also present were City Administrator Steve Brooks, City Attorney Luke Sunderland, Lori Gray, Andrea Beyer, Brian Rusche, and Michele Spring.

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

1. Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held August 5, 2026.
2. Appropriation Ordinance Number 1524

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve Charter Ordinance No. 10: A Charter Ordinance Exempting the City of Seneca, Kansas, from the Provisions of K.S.A. 12-834 and Providing Substitute and additional Provisions on the Same Subject Relating to Improvements for Gas, Water, Electric Light, Electricity, Heating and Street Railway or Telephone Service and the Issuance of Bonds for the Purpose of Paying for said Improvements. The motion was seconded by Kris Enneking. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Old Business:

New Business:

Jim Mitchell made a motion to approve the consideration of Street Closure request from NEK-CAP, Inc (Head Start) to close 8th Street from Nemaha Street to Pioneer Street on September 17, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. for Touch A Truck event. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

City Administrator Steve Brooks

Introduced Lori Gray as Recreation Director. Lori will also serve as secretary on the Park and Recreation Board.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that the Mayor and himself signed letters of support for the Parks and Recreation Board to pursue a grant through Kansas Parks and Wildlife Land and Water Conservation Fund, as possible funding for a Toddler Park Project at North Park.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that the new ballfield project is proceeding nicely and looking to be finished around the October timeframe.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that the replacement poles have been place and power restored at Pearson Field with the exception of lighting. The lighting was removed due to safety reasons, age, and being outdated. In previous conversations with the ball associations, it was agreed that Pearson could be a daytime field. If, in the future, the Governing Body wishes to re-install lighting, a project can be undertaken and new lighting installed. Steves recommendation would be to put priority investing into the tri-plex first.

City Administrator Steve Brooks announced that he is finishing up on the budget. He is budgeting for electric substation, an electric wire spool truck for the electric department. For the pool Steve is budgeting for new diving boards and canopy.

At 7:40 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to recess into executive session pursuant to the attorney client exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to include the governing body, Luke, and Steve. The open meeting will resume in the city council chambers at 7:50 p.m. with no action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

Ray Shinn arrived at 7:44 p.m.

At 7:50 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 7:50 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to recess into executive session pursuant to the attorney client exception, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(1) to include the governing body, Luke, Brian, Andrea, and Steve. The open meeting will resume in the city council chambers at 8:10 p.m. with possible action. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:10 p.m., Jim Mitchell made a motion to extend executive session for 15 minutes, until 8:25 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mike Stallbaumer. All voted yes. Motion carried.

At 8:25 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.

Jacee Corby made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Mitchell. All voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Michele Spring
City Clerk