

City of Seneca Council Meeting Minutes January 8, 2024

Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Monday, January 8, 2024, at City Hall by Mayor Pro Tem Brad Storrs. Members present: Ryan Schauer, Jamie Lankford, Denny Sikes, Dustin Housley and Derinda Malone.

DEPARTMENTS:

Police Department:

Police Chief James Altic reported the number of DWI's is up and 2 accidents occurred at Highway U and Highway 43. He said MoDOT is looking into safety improvements at that T intersection.

Police Chief James Altic said he attended a Police Chief's meeting last Friday and SB005 was brought up and impact it has on other municipalities. He said Jill Carter has been helping to advocate the concerns.

Police Chief James Altic reported officers are spending a lot of time at school activities.

Police Chief James Altic stated the patrol car donated from Miami will be in service soon. He added they have cleaned it up and waiting for a replacement seat.

Police Chief James Altic reported Central Dispatch had 7323 public calls for Seneca compared to 3012 for Granby. He said there were between 1500 and 2000 additional calls from City Hall and Public Works. He added we are still leading in the number of DWI's.

Police Chief James Altic said the evidence room is done. He stated Seneca High School shop class built gun cabinets at no charge and the students did a great job.

Police Chief James Altic reported everything is still the same with FEMA and the floodplain mapping amendments and appeals are still 2 to 3 years out.

Police Chief James Altic said a lot of free training is coming up in Joplin and free POST training will be available also.

Public Works:

Public Works Supervisor Jerrod Eidson reported the following:

6 water leaks have been repaired and 5 leaks still to be done.

The flatbed truck had the transmission go out.

Fire Department:

Fire Chief Tyler Crow was not present.

VISITORS:

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made to approve the Minutes from December 4, 2023, by R. Schauer, seconded by D. Sikes. All members voted yea; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

A motion was made to approve the Bills Paid in the amount of \$137,702.54 by D. Housley; seconded by R. Schauer. All members voted yea; motion carried.

WATER COLLECTION ADJUSTMENTS:

A motion was made to approve the November and December 2023 Water Collection Adjustments by D. Malone; seconded by D. Housley. All members voted yea; motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Pro Tem Brad Storrs explained the Osage Street Storm Water Management Project is in the preliminary stage consisting of culverts and ditches with Anderson Engineering working on it. He added the preliminary cost is estimated around \$300,000 but can be done in phases.

Mayor Pro Tem Brad Storrs reported SB005 is getting a lot of traction with elected officials due to Jill Carter meeting with the Governor. He said we will be providing data to them from our court and go over the outstanding balance of court fines, nearly \$400,000. He added we have a lot of good people in our corner and our information will be going to the next legislative session.

NEW BUSINESS:

Newton County Central Dispatch Contract for 2024:

A motion was made to approve the 2024 Newton County Central Dispatch Contract by D. Housley; seconded by D. Malone. All members voted yea; motion carried.

Lead Service Line Testing Project:

Mayor Pro Tem Brad Storrs explained the City is responsible for Lead Service Line Testing of all residents on city water. He said the City is responsible for testing on both sides, City and homeowner's side. He added that home owners can self test and report. Mayor Pro Tem Brad Storrs said there is a tutorial provided by EPA with information about the lead pipe testing.

A meeting will be scheduled January 29, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall for a Lead Service Line Public Information Campaign.

Schedule Community Service Project Dates:

A motion was made to "Table" scheduling the Community Service Project dates until the February 12, 2024 City Council Meeting by B. Storrs; seconded by D. Sikes. All members voted yea; motion carried.

City Council Concerns/Discussion:

Mayor Pro Tem said the Eastern Shawnee Tribe has asked the City of Seneca to assist with maintenance/repairs of the 10 inch water suppression line for the old Bordertown Casino. Discussion followed with suggestions to assist them if any problems or repairs come up.

A motion was made to go into Closed Session at 7:28 p.m. in pursuit of Section 610.020; (1) Legal actions, Section 610.021 Closed meetings by D. Housley; seconded by R. Schauer. The following vote was recorded, and roll was called. All members Councilman R. Schauer; Councilman J. Lankford, yea; Councilman D. Sikes, yea; Councilman D. Housley, yea; Councilman D. Malone; motion carried.

Closed Session: Members present: Mayor Pro Tem Brad Storrs, Councilman R. Schauer; Councilman J. Lankford; Councilman D. Sikes; Councilman D. Housley; Councilman D. Malone; Police Chief James Altic; Public Works Supervisor Jerrod Eidson and City Clerk, Cyndy Hutchings.

No action taken; no voting.

A motion was made to return to Open Session at 7:39 by D. Housley; seconded by D. Malone. The following vote was recorded and roll was called. All members Councilman R. Schauer, yea; Councilman J. Lankford, yea; Councilman D. Sikes, yea; Councilman D. Housley, yea; Councilman D. Malone, yea; motion carried.

A motion was made to adjourn by D. Housley; seconded by D. Malone at 7:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

CYNDY HUTCHINGS
City Clerk

BRAD STORRS
Mayor Pro Tem

