

City of Seneca Council Meeting Minutes June 10, 2024

Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Monday, June 10, 2024, at City Hall by Mayor Pro Tem Brad Storrs.
Members present: Ryan Schauer, Jamie Lankford, Sheila Whitehead, Skyler Jones and Derinda Malone.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: May 13, 2024

Approval of Bills: \$55,768.72

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by S. Jones; seconded by R. Schauer. All members voted yea; motion carried.

DEPARTMENTS:

Police Department:

Police Chief Altic reported things have been peaceful at the Police Department.

Police Chief Altic reported Seneca PD hosted Police training at the fire station training room for 18 officers.

Police Chief Altic stated he has contacted BNSF railroad to begin scheduling time for the 4th of July parade.

Police Chief Altic said the police officers have a lot of court time coming up for jury trials.

Police Chief Altic stated Charla Geller, Newton County Emergency Management Director is scheduling a meeting around the 1st of July with SEMA/FEMA addressing 186 homes going into the floodplain with the new mapping amendments. He added the meeting is for the public and encourages anyone to attend, adding the goal is to have no changes in the mapping. Police Chief Altic said we need to reach out to everyone that we can.

Police Chief Altic stated Seneca summer school is half over.

Police Chief Altic reviewed that he attended a recent Police Chiefs' meeting, and homeless issues are the number one topic right now in Joplin. He added the homeless individuals get dropped off here and the officers must take them to Soul's Harbor or other centers in Joplin. Police Chief Altic stated we have no place to take them here in Seneca. He added we try to work with area agencies to take them somewhere to get help.

Police Chief Altic reported PD is working on code violations. He said a lot of the homes are in foreclosure or probate and nothing can be done. Police Chief Altic said many just don't have the money to cover the expenses of cleaning up or mowing. He added a ticket is \$235.00 and provides minimal recoupment.

Police Chief Altic stated they are working on mini-grants and maxed out.

Public Works:

Public Works Supervisor Jerrod Eidson reported the following:

- 2 Sewer calls were resolved.
- A new water hydrant has been installed at Greenfield Circle.
- The boring under Highway K is complete.

Fire Department:

Fire Chief Crow reported all vehicles are in service.

Fire Chief Crow said the clutch has been replaced in the brush truck.

Fire Chief Crow reported 3 firemen attended Swift Water training.

Fire Chief Crow stated the Fire Auxiliary will be selling hot dogs after the 4th of July parade.

VISITORS:

KP Patel – Gas N Snack Liquor License Hold/Reserve:

KP Patel, owner of Gas N Snack asked the City Council to reserve a liquor license for Gas N Snack. He added his application will be processed and completed within 2 weeks with the State of Missouri. KP Patel added he plans to build a new store and is compliant with all requirements for the State of Missouri.

A motion was made to hold/reserve a City of Seneca liquor license for Gas N Snack for KP Patel by S. Jones; seconded by R. Schauer. 3 members voted yea; 1 abstained (J. Lankford). Motion carried.

Enchanted Florist – Request to Adjust Water Bill:

Mr. and Mrs. Weston from Enchanted Florist explained their water bill spiked in February 2024 and they have not found any leaks or problems to cause the high water bill.

A motion was made to adjust \$200 off the Enchanted Florist water bill by R. Schauer; seconded by J. Lankford. All members voted yea; motion carried.

Jared Whitehead – Green Space:

Jared Whitehead and Andrew Poor addressed the City Council about using the Green Space for scheduled Track 94 outdoor events with alcohol sales and the letter received stating the city declined their request due to the liability. Discussion followed.

Bryan Werner (Lost Creek Flea Market), Michael Steele (Campbell Biddlecome Funeral Home) and Rick Bennett (Bennett's Barber Shop) attended and discussed their concerns.

Trent Wilson handed out 4th of July activity flyers with the holiday schedule of events. He said the car show is Friday night, June 28, 2024, and the parade, games and activities will be all day Saturday, June 29, 2024, with the fireworks at the City Park at dark. T. Wilson said activities include the car show, 5 K run, cake walk, pie auction, tug-a-war, duck race and fireworks. T. Wilson said the fireworks and trash will all be picked up the next morning at the park. He said they would like to get community support and volunteers are welcome to help and participate in the events.

WATER COLLECTION ADJUSTMENTS:

A motion was made to approve the May 2024 Water Collection Adjustments by S. Jones; seconded by R. Schauer. All members voted yea; motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Senate House Bill 005:

Mayor B. Storrs reviewed the 3-pronged approach he's supporting with SHB005 – local police, clerks and finances. He said the goal is to collect uncollected debt data to compile from the district and send the data to Senator Jill Carter.

Police Chief Altic said he received an overview of engineering and design for a new city pool from Branco Construction and Water's Edge Consulting.

NEW BUSINESS:

2024 Street Overlay Project Bid Opening:

Bids were received as follows:

APAC Central, Inc. \$68,850.00

Blevins Asphalt Const. Co. \$91,960.00

A motion was made to award the 2024 Street Overlay Project Bid to APAC Central, Inc. for \$68,850.00 by R. Schauer; seconded by J. Lankford. All members voted yea; motion carried.

Track 94 Liquor License Renewal:

A motion was made to renew the Track 94 Liquor License by R. Schauer; seconded by S. Jones. (J. Lankford and S. Whitehead abstained); motion carried.

A motion was made to go into Closed Session at 7:40 p.m. pursuant to Section 610.021; Section 610.022: (1) Legal actions; by S. Jones; seconded by R. Schauer. Roll was called: Councilman R. Schauer, yea; Councilman J. Lankford, yea; Councilman S. Whitehead, yea and Councilman S. Jones, yea; motion carried.

Closed Session: Members present: Mayor B. Storrs, Councilman R. Schauer, Councilman J. Lankford, Councilman S. Whitehead, Councilman S. Jones, Police Chief J. Altic, Fire Chief T. Crow and C. Hutchings, City Clerk.

No action was taken; no votes taken.

A motion was made to return to Open Session at 8:26 p.m. by S. Jones; seconded by J. Schauer. The following vote was recorded. Roll was called: Councilman R. Schauer, yea; Councilman J. Lankford, yea; Councilman S. Whitehead, yea; Councilman S. Jones, yea; motion carried.

A motion was made to adjourn by R. Schauer; seconded by S. Whitehead at 8:26 p.m.

ATTEST:

CYNDY HUTCHINGS
City Clerk

BRAD STORRS
Mayor