

# **City of Seneca**

## **Council Meeting Minutes**

### **October 14, 2024**

Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 14, 2024, at City Hall by Mayor Brad Storrs.  
Members present: Ryan Schauer, Jamie Lankford, Sheila Whitehead, Skyler Jones and Derinda Malone.

#### **Consent Agenda:**

Approval of Minutes: September 9, 2024 and September 30, 2024

Approval of Bills: \$184,528.63

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by D. Malone; seconded by S. Whitehead. J. Lankford, voted yea; S. Whitehead, voted yea; D. Malone, voted yea; R. Schauer, voted nay and S. Jones, voted nay. Motion carried (3 yea, 2 nay).

#### **DEPARTMENTS:**

##### **Police Department:**

Police Chief Altic reported Shop With A Cop is scheduled for Saturday, December 7, 2024 at 7:00 a.m. at the 15th Street Walmart. He said they will be working with Eremish and Bright Futures.

Police Chief Altic reported he met with Senator Carter. He added a meeting was held to discuss the immigration issue. Police Chief Altic reviewed a situation with a DWI arrest and an interpreter had to be provided, a medical assessment had to be completed to return the individual back to Newton County with a court date scheduled several years out. He added the Task Force is meeting to review the problems such as the individuals have no driver's license or proof of residency.

Police Chief Altic reported due to school threats and issues they have purchased camera detectors for the SRO's.

Police Chief Altic reported the fleet of patrol cars has had 7 alternators replaced and 3 vehicles with frontend recall repairs.

Police Chief Altic reported Seneca's Homecoming Week was busy and the parade was the longest ever. He thanked Public Works and the firemen for helping with traffic control.

Police Chief Altic said everything is going ok and they are preparing to shut down the budget for yearend.

Mayor Brad Storrs stated he attended a Town Hall Meeting in Joplin recently. He said Police Chief Pearson discussed Haitian immigrants being housed at Crowder in Neosho. He added concerns are recourse if we don't have the resources to handle the individuals. Police Chief Altic said they can anticipate 200 to 250 children placed in the public school systems. Mayor B. Storrs encouraged everyone to reach out to our state representatives to voice how you feel regarding concerns and/or support of the situation.

##### **Public Works:**

Public Works Supervisor Jerrod Eidson was not present. Mayor Storrs reported the following:

- Anderson Engineering sent a representative to review the concrete cracks in the treatment plant walls and will be getting back with us about the repairs.

##### **Fire Department:**

Fire Chief Crow was not present.

##### **VISITORS:**

None.

##### **WATER COLLECTION ADJUSTMENTS:**

1013 Hamilton (Account ending #0902) – Water Bill Adjustment:

A motion was made to not approve a water bill adjustment for Account ending in 0902 by S. Jones; seconded by R. Schauer. All members voted yea; motion carried.

1034 Cherokee (Account ending #0401) Water Bill Adjustment:

A motion was made to approve a \$250 water bill adjustment for Account ending in 0401 with 12 months to pay the remaining balance by J. Lankford; seconded by S. Whitehead. All members voted yea; motion carried.

**1404 St. Patrick (Account ending #0002) – Water Bill Adjustment:**

A motion was made to approve a \$250 water bill adjustment for Account ending in #0002 with a remaining balance of \$33.15 to be paid in the next billing by R. Schauer; seconded by J. Lankford. All members voted yea; motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mayor B. Storrs reported the Lead Service Line Inventory Project has been posted with a 30-day notification. He said the November 11, 2024 City Council Meeting will be dedicated to opening and reviewing the bids.

Mayor B. Storrs reviewed SB5 legislation will have a language amendment submitted in 10 to 20 days.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Approve 2025 - 2029 Newton County Dispatch Agreement:**

A motion was made to approve the 2025 – 2029 Newton County Dispatch Agreement by J. Lankford; seconded by S. Jones. All members voted yea; motion carried.

**Closing Operating Budget for 2024:**

A motion was made to allow only emergency expenses for the remainder of the 2024 Operating Budget by S. Jones; seconded by R. Schauer. All members voted yea; motion carried.

A motion was made to go into Closed Session at 7:13 p.m. pursuant to Section 610.021; Section 610.022: (1) Legal Actions by J. Lankford; seconded by S. Whitehead. Roll was called: Councilman R. Schauer, yea; Councilman J. Lankford, yea; Councilman S. Whitehead, yea; Councilman S. Jones, yea and Councilman D. Malone, yea; motion carried.

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

A motion was made to rescind the Lost Creek Wireless, LLC motion (listed below) from the September 9, 2024 City Council meeting and reinstate the Lost Creek Wireless, LLC motion for the city's request to have C. Driskell install his own electric meter at the well sites (motion listed below) from the August 12, 2024 City Council meeting by S. Jones; seconded by S. Whitehead. Roll was called: Councilman R. Schauer, yea; Councilman J. Lankford, yea; Councilman S. Whitehead, yea; Councilman S. Jones, yea and Councilman D. Malone, yea; motion carried.

**Reinstated Motion - August 12, 2024:**

A motion was made to have the City Attorney provide a letter to Lost Creek Wireless, LLC, Clayton Driskell allowing him 5 business days to contact Liberty Electric and confirm his request for an electric service meter with 30 calendar days to have his new electric meter/service installed for the Lost Creek Wireless equipment instead of the City's service meter at the Well sites and if the requirements are not met, the City of Seneca will revoke the Business License for Lost Creek Wireless, LLC by D. Malone; seconded by S. Whitehead. Roll was called: Councilman R. Schauer, yea; Councilman J. Lankford, yea; Councilman S. Whitehead, yea; Councilman S. Jones, yea and Councilman D. Malone, yea; motion carried.

**Rescinded Motion – September 9, 2024:**

A motion was made to have Clayton Driskell on behalf of Lost Creek Wireless, LLC bring a contract/lease agreement to the City of Seneca for the use of electricity at the city water tower including: an indemnity clause, entire meter at his expense, any additional equipment added must be approved by the City of Seneca and the monthly fee will be a meter fee of \$35 plus \$10 a month electricity paid to the City of Seneca by S. Whitehead; seconded by S. Jones. All members voted yea; motion carried.

A motion was made to return to Open Session at 8:34 p.m. by S. Jones; seconded by D. Malone. The following vote was recorded. Roll was called: Councilman R. Schauer, yea; Councilman J. Lankford, yea; Councilman S. Whitehead, yea; Councilman S. Jones, yea and Councilman D. Malone, yea; motion carried.

A motion was made to adjourn by D. Malone; seconded by R. Schauer at 8:35 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

**CYNDY HUTCHINGS**  
City Clerk

**BRAD STORRS**  
Mayor