

August 5, 2009

The governing body met in regular session at 7:30 p.m., August 5, 2009 in the council room. Mayor Joe Mitchell and councilmembers Bob Claas, Bruce Hermesch, Steve Bennett and Jim Mitchell were present. Galen Niehues was absent. Also present were City Administrator Tami Dandliker, Richard Massieon, Mike Stallbaumer, Mike & Debbie Bennett, Ray Shinn, Jordan Shinn, Brent Schulte and Greg Wright and reporters Jim Copeland and Matt Diehl.

Bob Claas moved and Jim Mitchell seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2009 regular council meeting. Three voted aye, while Bruce Hermesch abstained as he was not present at that meeting.

The council heard an address from each of the three interested parties wanting to fill the remaining term of Steve Haas, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Councilman. The voting was as follows: Mike Bennett received one vote - Bob Claas; Ray Shinn received three votes - Bruce Hermesch, Joe Mitchell and Jim Mitchell and Mike Stallbaumer received 0 votes. Ray Shinn is the new councilman for the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward to fill the remaining term of Steve Haas.

At 7:50 p.m., the public hearing concerning the 2010 budget was opened. No one was present to comment. At 8:52 p.m., the hearing was closed.

Jim Mitchell moved and Bruce Hermesch seconded a motion to approve the 2010 Budget as presented. Three voted aye, while Bob Claas voted naye.

Steve Bennett moved and Jim Mitchell seconded a motion to approve the promotion of Bruce Deters to the position of Electrical Superintendent effective immediately at a starting wage of \$19.00 to be raised to \$20.00 after a six month probation. All four voted aye.

Bruce Hermesch moved and Jim Mitchell seconded a motion to approve the hiring of Cory Holthaus to fill the vacancy in the electric department at a starting wage of \$17.50 to be raised to \$18.25 after a six month probation. All four voted aye.

The cemetery rates for the City of Seneca have not been raised since 1993. New cemetery rates proposed are: Single Grave (resident) \$150.00; Single Grave (non-resident) \$250.00; Opening & Closing - Weekdays \$300.00; Opening & Closing - Weekends & Holidays \$450.00; Opening & Closing - Infants \$100.00; Cremated Ashes Opening & Closing \$150.00; Cremated Ashes Opening & Closing - Weekends & Holidays \$225.00; and Disinterment \$600.00. Bruce Hermesch moved and Jim Mitchell seconded a motion to approve the cemetery rates as presented. All four voted aye.

Jordan Shinn was present to gain approval for his Eagle Scout project. He is requesting permission to repaint the railroad viaduct bridge, having the city pay for the sandblasting and all the expenses involved. Bob Claas moved and Jim Mitchell seconded a motion to approve the project pending a plan be submitted to the city. All four voted aye.

Dean Luckeroth was present to discuss development factors for a piece of land he owns (NW Quarter of Section 36), which neighbors Maxwell Springs. Due to the question of putting in some sort of septic system and it being so close to the springs, a study is suggested. Bob Claas moved and Jim Mitchell seconded a motion to have Tami Dandliker put out requests for proposals for services required. All four voted aye.

Jim Mitchell moved and Bruce Hermesch seconded a motion to move forward with the development of a sourcewater protection plan for public water systems. All four voted aye.

A multiplier was not added when changing a demand meter at 604 Nemaha Bins on S. 7<sup>th</sup> for J-Six Farms. Total wholesale cost of energy used by J-Six but not billed is \$388,259.39, which J-Six agrees to pay, and the City agrees to accept this amount of payment as full reimbursement owed to the City, and paid over 10 years. Bruce Hermesch moved and Bob Claas seconded a motion to accept the meter correction agreement between the City of Seneca and J-Six Enterprises. All four voted aye.

Bob Claas moved and Bruce Hermesch seconded a motion to adjust the loss factor to reflect the current system loss

percentage, which would be 6% rather than the 12% currently being charged effective immediately. All four voted aye.

Bob Claas moved and Steve Bennett seconded a motion to lower two diversion fees on the city's diversion schedule per Richard Massieon's recommendation. The diversion fee on "No Liability Insurance" was lowered from \$350.00 to \$200.00 and on "Driving While Suspended" from \$250.00 to \$200.00. Three voted aye, while Bruce Hermesch voted naye.

Bruce Hermesch moved and Steve Bennett seconded a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance No. 1259, paying all bills except Midwest Roofing pending a roof inspection. All four voted aye.

Jim Mitchell moved and Bob Claas seconded a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1291 amending the City of Seneca Municipal Code regarding dog and cat licensing, tags, registration fees, and records, and providing penalties for failure to comply with said licensing requirements. All four voted aye.

Bruce Hermesch moved and Steve Bennett seconded a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1292 establishing new municipal court costs at the rate established by the Kansas District Courts. All four voted aye.

Bruce Hermesch moved and Bob Claas seconded a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1293 rezoning land as C-3 General Commercial District and providing for the amendment of the official Comprehensive Zoning Map of the City of Seneca, Nemaha County, Kansas. All four voted aye.

Steve Bennett moved and Jim Mitchell seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. All four voted aye.

Jane F. Strathman  
City Clerk