

The Seneca Village Council held its routinely scheduled Council meeting on September 1, 2009 at the Seneca Village Hall.

Council meeting was called to order at 7:00PM

Roll Call: Present: Victor, Lamb, Sears, Timmons, Spicer  
Absent: none

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Lamb that the Council approves the August 18, 2009 Council meeting minutes as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Victor, Lamb, Timmons, Sears, Spicer  
Nays: none

Treasurer's Report:

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council approves the payment of bills as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Victor, Timmons, Lamb, Sears, Spicer  
Nays: none

Seneca Business Spotlight Presentation

Dr. Christa Velos of the Riverside Chiropractic Center announced that the center is celebrating 10 years in the Village of Seneca. A party is being held on 9-19-09 and the community was invited to attend.

Communications, Petitions, Reports and Additional Agenda Items:

Additional Agenda items:

1. Police Department Computer Announcement
2. Request to use Village Hall by scout group
3. Valley View Announcement

Ms. Nancy Putnam of AFLAC insurance company gave a presentation to the Council regarding group insurance for Village employees. She requested that an employee meeting be allowed and indicated to the Council that AFLAC insurance would be of no cost to the Village, it would be a payroll deduction.

Mr. Michael Ellis of the Seneca Development Organization gave an overview to the Council regarding the fundamentals of community branding. The organization team developed a logo concept for the Village of Seneca that centers on the idea of a puzzle piece and a tagline of "Find Your Connection" He asked for Council financial support to utilize Jason Kirkpatrick of Design Fidelity Studio to create logo to be used on stationary and business cards. It was the consensus of the Council to allow this expense and also divide this amongst each department; he indicated this would be just over \$1000.00.

Mr. Ellis also presented the Council with the 2009 financial reports relating to the Seneca Festival Committee. Mayor Spicer thanked Mr. Ellis for an outstanding job on the detailed reports and asked if he would be interested in being the chairman of the committee next year as well as choose the festival committee. Mayor Spicer also thanked Joyce Barla publically for 15 years of volunteering as the festival treasurer.

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Lamb that the Council appoints Michael Ellis as Chairman of the 2010 Shipyard Days Festival and allow him to choose the 2010 committee members.

Roll Call: Ayes: Victor, Lamb, Sears, Timmons, Spicer  
Nays: none

Old Business:

Public Property Victor:

Commissioner Victor informed the Council that Clerk Therese Russell recently worked with Rich Applebee to upgrade the Village website to include two additional pages as well as added downloadable forms.

Comm. Victor also indicated that he is working with Chamlin & Associates to research the water rate survey in relation to Village utility billings. He added that he hopes to have a preliminary report for the next Council meeting.

Comm. Victor stated a flood committee meeting was held on August 27, 2009 regarding Valley View subdivision. Valley View residents at the flood committee meeting were asked to present recommendations to the Council for the alleviation of flooding in Valley View.

Streets Lamb:

Comm. Lamb spoke regarding various street repairs. Bidding specifications will be formulated regarding the following areas: Armstrong Street from Main to Hossack, Commerce Street from Union North to alley and Clark Street from Union to Lincoln. In addition, patch work will be included on Lincoln Street, Shipyard Road and Christie corner.

Public Affairs Spicer:

Mayor Spicer announced that a public hearing is necessary for the vacating of Bluff Street, the public hearing is set for September 15, 2009.

Mayor Spicer reviewed the recommendations and findings of the Zoning Board of Appeals relating to a variance request by the Johnson family at 230 E. Lincoln to re-build an accessory building that would be larger and higher than current Village standards and to reduce the setback from alley. The ZBA produced three motions regarding the request; the first was to recommend denial of the request for change of rear yard and side yard setbacks to less than 5 feet, motion carried. The second was a motion was made to allow the increase in building size to 960 square feet, motion carried. The third was motion made to allow the increase in building height to 21 feet, motion carried. This item was discussed at the previous council meeting, Mayor asked each council member to review the request, view the property and make an informed decision.

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Sears that the Council adopts the recommendations and findings by the Zoning Board of Appeals with exception to allow change of rear yard and side yard setbacks to less than 5 feet, and to authorize Attorney Mason to prepare Ordinance relating to the Johnson variance request.

Roll Call: Ayes: Victor, Sears, Timmons, Lamb, Spicer  
Nays: none

Commissioner's Report and New Business:

Public Affairs Spicer:

Mayor Spicer asked the Council for direction regarding a request from Kathy Arellano, Seneca Girl Scout leader; she requested to utilize the Village Hall for scout meetings. After discussion, clerk was instructed to notify Ms. Arellano that Council approved for meetings to be held at Village Hall with the stipulation that meetings be started prior to 4pm weekdays and that no food or drink be allowed.

Streets Lamb:

Comm. Lamb referred to Village Engineer Guy Christensen regarding the motor fuel tax resolution. Mr. Christensen stated the resolution allows for street maintenance funded by the motor fuel tax fund, which appropriates funds submitted to the state.

A motion was made by Comm. Victor and seconded by Comm. Lamb that the Council adopts Resolution #463, a Resolution for maintenance of streets and highways by municipality under the Illinois Highway Code for 2009.

Roll Call: Ayes: Victor, Lamb, Sears, Timmons, Spicer  
Nays: none

Public Health & Safety Sears:

Commissioner Sears announced a new part-time employee has been hired at the Seneca Police Department as a police officer.

A motion was made by Comm. Sears and seconded by Comm. Victor that the Council approves the hiring of Mr. Ronald Erickson as part-time police officer starting at \$15.63 per hour.

Roll Call: Ayes: Sears, Victor, Timmons, Lamb, Spicer  
Nays: none

A motion was made by Comm. Sears and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the September 1, 2009 Council meeting be adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Roll Call: Ayes: Sears, Timmons, Lamb, Victor, Spicer  
Nays: none

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Theresa L. Russell, Village Clerk