

The Seneca Village Council held a regularly scheduled Council meeting at Seneca Village Hall on May 5, 2015.

Village council meeting called to order at 7:00pm

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

A motion was made by Comm. Hamilton and seconded by Comm. Lamb that the Council approves the April 21, 2015 council meeting minutes as presented.

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

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

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

Seneca Business Spotlight presentation

Communications, Petitions, Reports, Additional Agenda Items & Public Comments

Public Comment:

1. Ms. Mariah Bright, addressed ordinance 86-15, prohibiting beekeeping within Village limits; she gave presentation on the benefits of honeybees and also asked the Council to revisit the idea of allowing beekeeping. Mayor Spicer indicated he would like to have Ms. Bright share her thoughts and information with the Plan Commission.

Additional Agenda Items:

1. Siren Update by Kathy Haralson
2. Appreciation Announcements
3. Executive Session Called for Personnel after Sine-Die

Kathy Haralson gave an update on the failed testing of the emergency siren; she stated it was determined by Fulton Technologies that Grundy County can initiate the siren but due to an overloaded circuit within their facility, they are then unable to discontinue the siren. Currently, various solutions are being formulated to correct this problem.

Old Business:

Public Property Hamilton:

Commissioner Hamilton gave a final update on the state mandated cross connection survey; after three consecutive letters were sent out, all but 20 surveys were returned out of 894. Commissioner Hamilton stated it would be up to his replacement to direct staff on how to proceed. In addition, Comm. Hamilton thanked the full time staff for making his job easier over the years he has been a Commissioner for the Village.

Streets Lamb:

Commissioner Lamb stated his appreciation for Village Engineer Guy Christensen helping him through his reign as Commissioner.

Public Health and Safety Sears:

Commissioner Sears asked the Council to hire Frank Bray as part-time police officer.

A motion was made by Comm. Sears and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council approves hiring Frank Bray at a rate of \$18.37 hourly out of the Public Health & Safety Department.

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

Commissioner Sears also stated the second installment is due on the 2014 Ford Interceptor Utility vehicle.

A motion was made by Comm. Sears and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council approves an expenditure of \$10,851.84 to Ford Credit for second installment payment of the 2014 Interceptor vehicle split 70% out of DUI fund and balance out of PHS.

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

Comm. Sears thanked Frank Hall, Village Zoning Officer, Ray Meglan, Police Chief along with Police Department and finally Kathy Haraison, EMA Coordinator for their hard work over the years.

Public Affairs Mayor Spicer:

Mayor Spicer gave his appreciation to Gary Hamilton, John Lamb and Jerry Sears stating that even though they have had differences over the years, many accomplishments have been made and wished each one good luck with future endeavors.

Sine-die

Commissioners Applebee, Olson and Barla took their seats on the board.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council designates the following: Randy Timmons, Public Property; Rick Barla, Accounts & Finance; Jeff Olson, Streets; Rich Applebee, Public Health & Safety.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Timmons, Olson, Applebee, Spicer
Nays: none

Mayor and Commissioners take the official Oath.

New Business:

Accounts and Finance Barla:

Commissioner Barla handed out budgetary information to each Commissioner and reviewed budget with them; he also asked each Commissioner to speak with their respective employees for ideas to conserve additional funds by cutting back expenses.

Streets Olson:

Commissioner Olson announced there will be two openings for summer help in the Street Department as well as one in the Water/Sewer Department; applications are being accepted at Seneca Village Hall at this time.

Public Affairs Mayor Spicer:

Mayor Spicer stated that the yearly prevailing wage ordinance is up for review; the ordinance specifies that the Village provide prevailing rate of wages as defined in the Act for laborers, mechanics and other workers in the locality of LaSalle and Grundy Counties. This item will be placed on the May 19, 2015 agenda for passage. Mayor Spicer announced he would like to have Council approve an expenditure to cover the Cruise Night committee hiring entertainment for the 2015 event.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Olson that the Council approves an expenditure of up to \$1500.00 to the Seneca Cruise Night committee out of the Video Game Tax Fund.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Olson, Applebee, Timmons, Spicer
Nays: none

Mayor Spicer announced the Village having a clean-up event on Friday, June 19, 2015 and Saturday the 20th from 8:00am-4:00pm at Olson's Auto/Scrap Metal Recycling located at 354 W. Jackson Street, Seneca. Payment for this event will be taken out of the Garbage Fund and amount will be determined by how many dumpsters are utilized. Questions ensued about the possibility of having a specific recycling event for tire collection and after discussion, solutions were given. Mayor also announced that many Village officers are up for appointment and asked Council if they would prefer all on one motion; consensus was to proceed with that decision.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the Council accepts the following appointments as presented:

Police Chief, Ray Meglan
Village Treasurer, Nancy Spampanato
Village Clerk, Therese Russell
Village Engineer, Guy Christensen
Village Attorney, Bob Russo

All with terms ending 2020.19

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Applebee, Olson, Timmons, Spicer
Nays: none

A motion was made by Comm. Timmons and seconded by Comm. Olson that the Council appoints Jackie Brewster to the Seneca Plan Commission with term ending April, 2020.

Roll Call: Ayes: Timmons, Olson, Applebee, Barla, Spicer
Nays: none

A motion was made by Comm. Applebee and seconded by Comm. Barla that the Council appoints Sylvan Olson to Plan Commission with term ending April, 2020.

Roll Call: Ayes: Applebee, Barla, Olson, Timmons, Spicer
Nays: none

A motion was made by Comm. Applebee and seconded by Comm. Olson that the Council appoints Frank Hall as Zoning Enforcement Officer with term ending May, 2020.19

Roll Call: Ayes: Applebee, Olson, Timmons, Barla, Spicer
Nays: none

A motion was made by Comm. Applebee and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council appoints Kathleen Haralson as EMA Coordinator with term ending May, 2020.19

Roll Call: Ayes: Applebee, Timmons, Barla, Olson, Spicer
Nays: none

A motion was made by Comm. Applebee and seconded by Comm. Barla that the Council appoints Evie Helm as Assistant EMA Coordinator with term ending May, 2020.19

Roll Call: Ayes: Applebee, Barla, Olson, Timmons, Spicer
Nays: none

Commissioner Barla asked to have an additional agenda item of calling executive session for personnel discussion.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council enters into executive session to discuss personnel.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Timmons, Applebee, Olson, Spicer
Nays: none

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council returns to regular session.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Timmons, Olson, Applebee, Spicer
Nays: none

A motion was made by Olson and seconded by Barla that the May 5, 2015 is adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Roll Call: Ayes: Olson, Barla, Applebee, Timmons, Spicer
Nays: none

Theresa L. Russell,
Seneca Village Clerk