

The Seneca Village Council held a regularly scheduled council meeting at Seneca Village Hall on November 21, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Roll Call: Present: Applebee, Barla, Timmons, Spicer
Absent: Olson

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council approves the November 7, 2017 council meeting minutes as presented.

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

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the Council approves the October treasurer's report, payroll & payment of bills as presented.

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

No Seneca Business Spotlight presentation

Communications, Petitions, Reports and Additional Agenda Items:

1. Tax Levy Announcement

Old Business:

Public Property Timmons:

Comm. Timmons referred to Guy Christensen of Chamlin & Associates to review the "Village of Seneca - Crotty Park – Walnut Street Watermain Improvement" project. Mr. Christensen stated that six bids were received, opened and publically read on today's date at 11:00 am. He said that Brandt Excavating was the low bidder at \$50, 991.00. Mr. Christensen indicated in addition that Stott Contracting has signed the contract relating to the Union to Lincoln Street sanitary sewer extension project and work will commence soon. No questions were presented.

A motion was made by Comm. Timmons and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the council award the "Village of Seneca – Crotty Park – Walnut Street Watermain Improvement Project" to Brandt Excavating in the amount of \$50, 991.00 out of the Water Department.

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

Comm. Timmons stated the agenda item of discussion on revision of ordinance 00-08 pertaining to rates for use of Village personnel and equipment will be tabled until Commissioner Olson is available to provide equipment cost information.

Accounts and Finance Barla:

Commissioner Barla stated the announcement at the November 7, 2017 council meeting regarding the need for a truth and taxation tax levy hearing was incorrect. After further review, staff found an error that he and Attorney Russo had previously missed, therefore a public hearing is not necessary after all. He thanked Nancy Gross for finding the error and no questions were presented.

Public Health and Safety Applebee:

Commissioner Applebee gave a reminder regarding the 2017 Shop with a Cop program, which will take place December 16, 2017; donations are currently being accepted at the Seneca Police Station.

Public Affairs Mayor Spicer:

Mayor Spicer stated the ordinance authorizing the conveyance of Mount Hope Cemetery to the cemetery association is up for vote, Attorney Russo indicated a deed including legal description will be provided and clerk shall record with county. No questions were presented.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Applebee that the council adopts ordinance #17-16, an ordinance authorizing the conveyance of Mount Hope Cemetery to the Mount Hope Cemetery Association of Seneca, IL.

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

New Business:

Accounts and Finance Barla:

Comm. Barla stated a transfer is necessary from the Motor Fuel Tax Money Market account to the Motor Fuel Tax General Checking. No questions were presented.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the council approves a transfer from the MFT Money Market to the MFT General Checking.

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

Streets Olson:

In Comm. Olson's absence, Mayor Spicer announced that a bill was received recently for the installation of a bridge light lens in the amount of \$2,428.28. Comm. Barla indicated that he believed when the bridge was constructed that the agreement was that village pay for lighting.

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council approves an expenditure to Ayers Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$2,428.28 out of the Street Department.

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

Public Health and Safety Applebee:

Comm. Applebee reviewed the current burn hours. He also indicated there have been an increased amount of car burglaries recently and asked everyone to be cognizant of locking their doors. In addition, he asked that everyone celebrate the holidays responsibly and pay attention to road conditions when driving. Comm. Applebee provided the council a detailed statistical analysis of the police department over the last few years. He stated that there will be a future update to the Seneca Police Department page on the village website. Mayor Spicer asked Comm. Applebee why the public was not notified by the emergency NIXLE communication system regarding the recent burglaries and Comm. Applebee indicated he felt the need not to inundate the public with NIXLE announcements, but will take information presented under advisement for future.

The agenda item of "Police Department Scheduling Information" was tabled by Comm. Applebee.

A discussion was held on a ClearSky Tower Lease Agreement that was presented to the council and Attorney Russo. This agreement would be between the Village of Seneca and ClearSky for the use of the 911 tower located 615 North Main Street. ClearSky proposed to provide \$400.00 monthly for the use of the tower, and to connect to the village's existing electricity for the purpose of providing internet service. Mayor Spicer indicated he felt the village should not allow ClearSky to utilize the village's electricity, Comm. Timmons stated he felt a separate meter should be installed and billing for their electricity shall be their responsibility. Mayor Spicer asked Comm. Applebee to provide agreements of surrounding communities with ClearSky for the same purpose to review the monthly rent amount. In addition, it was discussed that the council felt it was unsafe to allow ClearSky employees twenty-four hour, seven days per week access to the property without personnel being insured and bonded. Comm. Barla indicated he would like their employees to have a background check provided to the village at ClearSky's expense. Attorney Russo said a provision should be indicated in the

agreement that ClearSky's equipment cannot interfere with any safety equipment the village has on the tower currently and if the decision is made that ClearSky equipment in fact is interfering the village should have leverage to have equipment removed. Comm. Timmons asked if the installation of the equipment by ClearSky could in fact benefit the village for internet service, Comm. Applebee stated the current system is providing good service. Comm. Applebee asked Mayor Spicer if he wanted to meet in the future with ClearSky, Mayor indicated he would.

Public Affairs Mayor Spicer:

Mayor Spicer stated the village was recently contacted to advertise in the LaSalle County Visitors Guide, after discussion the village council consensus was to allow a \$397.00 expenditure for advertisement. Mayor Spicer announced a Park Board Holiday Lighting Contest for 2017. Consensus of council was to continue with membership in the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce at a cost of \$100.00.

No public comment was presented

A motion was made by Comm. Barla and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the November 21, 2017 council meeting is adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Roll Call: Ayes: Barla, Timmons, Applebee, Spicer

Nays: none

Theresa L. Russell, Village Clerk