The Seneca Village Council held its regularly scheduled Council Meeting on September 18, 2012 at Seneca Village Hall.

Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

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

A motion was made by Comm. Hamilton and seconded by Comm. Sears that the Council approves the September 4, 2012 council meeting minutes and budget meeting minutes as presented.

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

Treasurer’s Report:

A motion was made by Comm. Hamilton and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council approves the August Treasurer’s Report, Payroll and payment of bills as amended to include payments to P & M Electric for $4105.00 out of the Parks Department and Midwest Testing Services for $7,700.00 out of the Shipyard Road Fund.

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

No Seneca Business Spotlight presentation

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

Mr. Ryan Gust, Cub Scout District Executive spoke to the Council about the potential of creating a Seneca Cub Scout Pack; Commissioner Sears offered that anyone wishing to be involved with leadership could use the Seneca Fire & Ambulance building for meeting purposes. Village Clerk Russell instructed to advertise information onto the Village Facebook & Twitter accounts.

Additional Agenda Items:

1. Homecoming Parade Announcement
2. Battery Replacement Announcement
3. Halloween Trick-or-Treat Hours Announcement

Old Business:

Public Property Hamilton:
Commissioner Hamilton announced that currently the iron pipe utilized at the sewer plant is eroding due to the surrounding soil and is in need of replacement. The pipe’s function is to allow for air to pump into fusers for the sewer plant tanks and it was also stated that replacement is required of all current airline piping. Commissioner Hamilton met with engineer Larry Good of Chamlin & Associates about the project scope and cost factors; estimated design and permit work from Chamlin & Associates will be approximately $20,000.00 in addition airline work is estimated at $150,000.00 and additionally replacement of diffuser system will be approximately $30,000.00 which will, in time ultimately save in energy costs.

A motion was made by Comm. Hamilton and seconded by Comm. Lamb that the Council approves that Chamlin & Associates provide design & permit work in relation to the sewer plant airline project at a cost of approximately $20,000.00 to be taken out of the sewer capitol fund.

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

Comm. Hamilton stated the September 16, 2012 1st Annual Seneca Bass Tournament was a successful event which included 24 teams and produced six prizes ranging from $1500.00 to $100.00. Comm. Hamilton publically thanked both Clarence Wignes and Commissioner John Lamb for their assistance in helping to provide lighting at the Seneca Boat Launch prior to the event.

Public Health and Safety Sears:

Commissioner Sears stated the Seneca Police Department has recently installed an emergency phone in the foyer of the new police addition to make contact with dispatch employees if officers are not at the Police Department. Anyone needing assistance that arrives at the Police Station can utilize the phone system which automatically calls only dispatch.

New Business:

Public Property Hamilton:

Comm. Hamilton announced that the Village had obtained local bids for a new mower as the current mower is approximately 9 years old and has over 3,000 hours on it. After reviewing bids received, several factors were reviewed including machine capability, cost, warranty as well as trade-in allowance and it was determined that The Turf Team of Morris had the superior product needed.

A motion was made by Comm. Hamilton and seconded by Comm. Lamb that the Council approves an expenditure of $8,179.00 to The Turf Team for the purchase of a mower to be taken out of the Public Property Department.
Roll Call: Ayes: Hamilton, Lamb, Sears, Timmons, Spicer  
Nays: none

Commissioner Hamilton stated that Sgt. Tom Rubin of the Illinois National Guard has been allowed to utilize a vacant office at the Seneca Village Hall.

Streets Lamb:

Comm. Lamb stated the 2012 Motor Fuel Tax program is underway and asphalt work has been completed at the following locations: East Birchlawn, Englewood and patchwork completed in Valley View. In addition, future patchwork will be completed on Union Street and crack sealing will be started sometime in October. Village maintenance employees were commended for completion of road prep work.

Public Health & Safety Sears:

Comm. Sears stated that donations are being collected for the 2012 Shop with a Cop event which will take place in December; anyone wishing to donate can do so by dropping off to either Seneca Village Hall or Police Station. In addition, a new part-time dispatch employee is needed to replace one that had moved to another state.

A motion was made by Comm. Sears and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the Council approves the hiring of Connie Bergeson as a part-time dispatcher at an hourly rate of $10.80 to be taken out of the Public Health & Safety Department.

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

Comm. Sears also stated that on October 31, 2012, Halloween Trick-or-Treat Hours for the Village of Seneca will be from 5pm-7pm. The 2012 Seneca Homecoming Parade will take place on September 30, 2012 at 3pm; and in addition, the annual smoke detector battery replacement event will again take place in October by the Seneca Fire Protection & Ambulance District with date to be announced.

Public Affairs Mayor Spicer:

Mayor Spicer gave an update by Integrys Energy relating to electrical aggregation program in which Integrys is now able to include all-electric accounts in the current aggregation program. He explained, these are customers that heat their home with electric instead of gas; Com-Ed pricing for this group of customers changed and they can new save money by joining the aggregation. To accomplish this, the Village will need to amend Ordinance #12-06 which adopted the Plan of Operation and Governance relating to Electrical Aggregation. The amended Ordinance will be placed on file with the Village Clerk and brought up for vote at the next Council meeting, October 2, 2012.
Mayor Spicer also stated that Mr. Gerard Keating of the Seneca I-80 Railport Project has requested an extension of the special uses and the benchmark dates under the Redevelopment Agreement.

A motion was made by Comm. Sears and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the deadline of September 1, 2012 for certification of all plans, drawings and bid documentation for milestones under the redevelopment agreement for the intermodal facility and extension of all special use permits have been extended to September 1, 2013.

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

Commissioner Lamb added that he would ask that Mr. Keating be made aware of the weeds growing up around the portion of property that contains vacant homes.

A motion was made by Comm. Timmons and seconded by Comm. Lamb that the Council enters into executive session to discuss collective bargaining.

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

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

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

A motion was made by Comm. Sears and seconded by Comm. Timmons that the September 18, 2012 Council Meeting is adjourned at 8:35 pm.

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

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Theresa L. Russell, Seneca Village Clerk