CITY OF Seneca OREGON

106 A Ave., PO Box 208
Seneca, OR 97873
(541) 542-2161
www.SenecaOregon.com

City of Seneca - Special City Council Meeting Minutes

Date: June 23, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Seneca City Hall

Council Present:
Mayor Andrea Officer
Councilor Barbara Northington,
Councilor Matt Wenick
Councilor Melvin Herburger

Staff Present:
Deborah Oatman

Absent:
Councilor Chuck White

Call to Order
Mayor Andrea Officer called the Special City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Election to Receive State Revenues – Resolution 2026-4
The Council reviewed Resolution 2026-4 electing to receive State Revenue Sharing funds for Fiscal Year 2026-2027. There was brief discussion regarding the annual nature of the resolution and the importance of remaining eligible for state-shared revenues.

Motion: Councilor Herburger moved to adopt Resolution 2026-4 electing to receive state revenues.
Second: Councilor Northington.
Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

2. Resolution 2026-5 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget
The Council reviewed the final proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
Discussion focused on employee health insurance incentives, mileage reimbursement, and payroll-related budget line items. Questions were raised regarding projected insurance costs and the distinction between insurance incentives, mileage reimbursement, and phone stipends. Staff explained that these items are budgeted separately and noted that future budget presentations would include additional detail for improved transparency.
Council consensus was that any concerns regarding these allocations could be reviewed during the next budget cycle.

Motion: Councilor Northington moved to adopt Resolution 2026-5 adopting the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget.
Second: Councilor Herburger.
Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

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3. Updated Grazing Lease Agreements

The Council reviewed the updated grazing lease agreements, including new language intended to address vegetation management, overgrazing concerns, and property maintenance responsibilities.

Discussion included:

- Vegetation management and weed control.
- The historical use of grazing leases on City-owned property.
- Future consideration of storage provisions and non-grazing uses of leased property.
- The value of leaseholders maintaining City property and reducing fire hazards.

No formal action was required. Council agreed the updated agreements were acceptable for execution and that additional lease language could be considered during future lease renewals.

4. Approval of New Grazing Agreement with Richard Schwartzer

The Council reviewed the proposed Revocable Grazing Permission Agreement for the City's recycled water land application area.

Discussion included:

- Use of the property for vegetation management.
- Monitoring grazing levels to maintain adequate vegetation cover.
- Lessee responsibilities for fencing and protection of infrastructure within the lease area.
- Previous research completed regarding the suitability of grazing within the land application area.

Motion: Councilor Herburger moved to approve the Revocable Grazing Permission Agreement with Richard Schwartzer.
Second: Councilor Wenick.
Vote: Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Mayor Officer adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:28 p.m.

Attest:

Andrea Officer

Andrea Officer, Mayor

Deborah Oatman
City Manager/Recorder