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## City of Seneca Council Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 11

**Location:** City Hall

**Presiding:** Mayor Andrea Officer

**Council Members Present:** Chuck White, Melvin Herburger, Barbara Northington

**Staff Present:** Deborah Oatman

**Guests Present:** Bill Andrade, Mike Allen, King Williams, Suzie Hood, Linda Pace, Richard Schwartzer

### Call to Order

Mayor Andrea Officer called the meeting to order at 6pm

### Old Business

#### 1. Fire Truck Repair Update

Deborah Oatman reported that insurance will cover \$10,900 of the repair.

A&L's estimate came in at \$11,000 (upper limit).

Truck has been transported to Richland, Oregon for efficiency and cost savings.

Some repairs have already been completed.

#### 2. Seneca Firefighters Association Proposal (501(c)(3))

Bill Andrade presented information on forming a nonprofit Firefighters Association.

Association would be separate from the city and eligible for additional grant opportunities.

City would still allocate funds to the fire department; the association would supplement with grants and fundraising. The association board will consist of Bill, Mike Allen, and Deborah

Oatman. The EIN number has been obtained; application for 501(c)(3) status (\$275 fee) is in progress. Purpose: enable grants (BLM 50/50 match, AFG, and private foundations) and allow in-kind contributions as matches.

#### 3. Gate Project for Fire Facility

Proposal to upgrade compound gate with an electronic remote/keypad system (\$4,299).

To be funded through the future Firefighters Association.

#### **4. Fire Engine Update**

Extensive repairs underway: pump transmission rebuild, bearing replacements, fluid lines, service filters, and gauge replacements.

#### **New Business**

##### **1. Budget Committee**

Linda Pace appointed to the Budget Committee, replacing Patty Davidson.  
First meeting scheduled for March 25.

##### **2. Approval of Past Minutes**

February 4 Work Session Minutes:

Motion by Councilor Herburger, seconded by Councilor White.

**Approved unanimously.**

February 11 Regular Meeting Minutes:

Motion by Councilor Herburger, seconded by Councilor White.

**Approved unanimously.**

January 14 Amended Minutes:

Addition of paragraph clarifying new signatories and removal of previous ones for the safety deposit box.

Motion to amend: Councilor Herburger. Second: Councilor Northington.

**Approved unanimously.**

#### **Public Comment**

**Iron Triangle Operations Update-** Presented by King Williams.

Two more trucks hauling chips; no recent smokes from old piles. Discussion on potential culvert to redirect runoff toward Jack Southworth's field (property owner coordination suggested).

Building over equipment discussed; structure is engineered and stamped. City acknowledged lack of permit process. Road maintenance discussed; Iron Triangle and the city will work together as needed. Council noted Iron Triangle's positive community contributions.

#### **Fire Hydrant Infrastructure**

Missing hydrant near First & D/16th Ave discussed; potential project for Firefighters Association.

Long-term plan needed for hydrant placement, including possible hydrants near Iron Triangle.

Pond infrastructure discussed for future fire suppression needs.

#### **Fire Department Operations**

Proposal for Miles Brokaw to provide periodic firefighter training.

Mike Allen to continue administrative duties.

Ongoing volunteer training and certifications discussed.

### **Motions and Resolution**

**Approve Contract Agreement**

Motion: Councilor Northington

Second: Mayor Officer

**Approved:** Unanimously

*Purpose: Allows Bill Andrade to represent the city in acquiring a fire water tender.*

**Approve Formation of Seneca Firefighters Association (501(c)(3))**

Motion: Councilor Northington

Second: Councilor Herburger

**Approved:** Unanimously

**Approve SCA Grant Resolution 2025-01**

Motion: Councilor Herburger

Second: Councilor White

**Approved:** Unanimously

*Purpose: Authorizes use of state highway funds for paving and improving Shirt Tail Creek Road.*

**Pay City Bills**

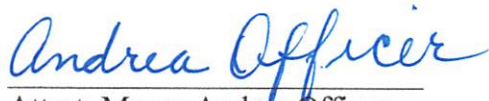
Motion: Councilor Herburger

Second: Councilor Northington

**Approved:** Unanimously

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned by Mayor Andrea Officer at approximately 7pm



Attest: Mayor Andrea Officer