



**Council Present**

Brad Smith (Current Mayor)  
Andrea Officer (New Mayor)  
Matt Wenick  
Melvin Herburger  
Barbara Northington

**Public Present**

Linda Pace  
James Phillips  
Jim Officer  
Suzanne Hood

January 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 Council Meeting called to order @6pm by Mayor Smith  
Minutes taken by Manager/Recorder Deborah Oatman

The Seneca City Council meeting on January 14, 2025, covered several key topics and included important decisions.

**Key Discussions:**

1. **Fire Prevention & Defensible Space:**
  - o The council discussed fire prevention measures, including using a machine to clear sagebrush, emphasizing the need for defensible space to reduce fire risks and suggested evaluating costs and planning for these efforts in April or May.
2. **Council Member Updates:**
  - o Andrea Officer was sworn in as the new council member. The council then elected Andrea Officer as mayor and reappointed Barbara Northington as the president of the council.
3. **Budget and Projects Update:**
  - o Deborah Oatman provided updates on the 2023 budget, and upcoming project the SCA grant to pave Shirttail Cr rd.
4. **Code Enforcement & IGA with Sheriff's Department:**
  - o The council discussed the possibility of entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the sheriff's department for code enforcement and nuisance abatement. The council decided to explore this option further.
5. **Fire Truck Issues:**
  - o There was an update on fire truck repairs, the search for a new fire chief, and a discussion on heating options.



### Action Items:

- **Contact the Sheriff's Office** to explore IGA for code enforcement.
- **Schedule a Work Session** on February 4, 2025, to plan the council's annual calendar and priorities.
- **Follow up** on fire truck repairs and the search for a new fire chief.
- **Investigate Heating Options** for the fire department building.
- **Consider an Electric Gate** at the fire department for improved access control.

### Approval of Minutes

Mayor Brad Smith asked for a motion to approve December 10<sup>th</sup> 2024 minutes. Councilor Northington made the motion, second by Councilor Suzanne Hood, all were in favor, motion passed.

### Bills Before Council

Mayor Andrea Officer asked for a motion to pay the bills. Councilor Northington made the motion to pay bills, second by Councilor Wenick, all were in favor, motion passed.

The meeting wrapped up by updating the safety deposit box and signatories and signatories for the bank of Eastern Oregon, read by Mayor Andrea Officer.

“The council here by gives permission for Andrea officer, Chuck White and Melvin Herberger the ability to be signatories and have access to the safety deposit box at the Bank of Eastern Oregon for the city of Seneca during their term as council members. We give Deborah Oatman permission to access the same safety deposit box and remove Jay Kenyon, Melissa Pettyjohn, Brad Smith, Sue Holliday, and Suzanne Hood from the safety deposit box and as signatories for the City of Seneca.”

Meeting Adjourned 7pm

Attest: *Andrea Officer*  
Andrea Officer Mayor