



City of Seneca City Council meeting April 11th 2023
6pm City Hall

Council Members

Mayor Brad Smith
Barbara Northington
Susie Hood
Matt Wenick
Lindsey Wenick

Public

Chuck White
Patty Davidson
Mike Allen
Pete Walker
Josh Walker
Judy Chapman
Ricky Gray
Zack Denny
James Bernard

Meeting was called to order at 6pm by Mayor Smith
Minutes taken by Manager/Recorder Deborah Oatman

Agenda Item 1 Open Floor:

Mayor Smith calls the April 11th 2023 meeting to order and announces agenda item 1 open floor. Zack Denny presented a new service to Grant County the John Day Delivery which will deliver groceries for a fee from Safeway. If you are interested instructions are available at City Hall.

Chuck White inquired about the rumors going on over Silvie's Roadhouse which is that it will be housing for employees. Councilor M Wenick said it is not our place to question because they have not presented anything to council and suggested we call the county to see if they have requested a permit.

Patty Davidson asked why the sewer smelled since it is new, Mayor Smith responded that we have to put a bug in it for the smell which will go in with the chemicals. Councilor Northington responded that she thought it was done when the ice melt is over. Then Patty asked about the public bathrooms and if they were cleaned? Councilor Northington said yes, we have always had someone clean them.

Judy Chapman asked if we hired a new maintenance; Deb replied yes and introduce James Bernard.

Item 2 Warning System Proposal, Mark Cerny by phone

Mayor Smith accounted agenda Item 2. Mark has a system with the forest service that alerts those who live on the north end of Scotty Creek and Izee when there will be prescribed burning and is proposing a calling system that will alert all residents in the valley. Any support and help he could get to gather phone numbers would be appreciated. If interested please call 541-620-1986.

Item 3 Seneca Timbers RV:

Mayor Smith accounted agenda Item 3. Mayor Smith said we have discussed the issue over no water meter at the RV park. Josh walker said he had dug it up in 2016, took pictures and brought it to council and at the time a meter was \$3500 for a 4" PVC vs. \$57 for a regular standard meter at that time, because Josh was related to the owner, he left it up to the council to decide. It was suggested that they modify rates for commercial use. Council did not want to put it in and it was not addressed after that. Pete Walker said that with the exception of summer we don't use much water, many RVs do not hook up and those who come in to dump we do not allow unless they spend a night. Councilor Northington stated that she had a conversation with Mrs. Walker who stated that she would be willing to pay extra, and asked if they would exceed 29000? Josh Walker said no. Councilor M Wenick asked



what they thought the sprinklers put out and Pete Walker said they do not water grass and cannot due to the positions of the RV spots. Councilor L Wenick and Councilor M Wenick both agreed that we should do a comparison with other businesses and Josh Walker stated that you would never get a true comparison. Pete Walker stated that it was ok with him for the city to come up with a price.

Item 4 Equipment Surplus:

Mayor Smith accounted agenda Item 4. Deb asked if they could possibly sell the Mini Excavator as it is a cost of \$925 a month? Councilor Northington stated that it was purchased for the city sewer lines and has very few hours. JB stated that he could do that work with the backhoe and a smaller implement. Councilor M Wenick asked Deb to get the pay off and he could help with getting a price to put out for bid.

Item 5 Lagoon Closure Intent to Award Letter:

Mayor Smith accounted agenda Item 5. Councilor Northington made a motion to approve the letter of intent to award Wild Honey with the final phase of the Lagoon closure, motion was seconded by Councilor M Wenick, motion was passed unanimously.

Item 6 Sewer Update:

Mayor Smith accounted agenda Item 6. JB stated that DEQ will not allow us to get the Lagoon down by letting it overflow into the golf course, and now want us to do the irrigation. The pump is running to the pasture and we will be taking samples to John Day for testing.

Item 7 Approve March Minutes:

Mayor Smith accounted agenda Item 7. Deb stated that she did not have the March minutes ready.

Item 8 Bills Before Council

Mayor Smith accounted agenda Item 8. Councilor Northington made a motion to pay bills and Councilor Hood seconded; motion was passed unanimously.

Mayor Smith declares meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

Attest: Brad L. Smith
Mayor Brad Smith