

**City of Silver Lake
Regular Session Minutes
Thursday, September 7, 2023**

The Governing Body of the City of Silver Lake met in regular session at City Hall on Thursday evening September 7, 2023, with Mayor Mack Smith conducting the meeting and the following Councilmembers present: Brad Bryant, Steve Pegram (via conference phone), Heath Robinson, and Larry Ross (4). Absent: Jake Fisher (1). Also present were Public Works Superintendent Cary Deiter, Police Chief Marc McCune, City Clerk Liz Steckel, and Assistant Clerk Marie Beam.

During public comment, Ashley Hanson, a representative from the Silver Lake Library Board, was in attendance to request that the City allocate a portion of the City's American Rescue Plan Act funds to support the library's after-school snack program. This program was previously backed by a grant, which has now concluded. The Council requested that Mrs. Hanson provide additional details about the snack program and the library's current requirements to be included in the upcoming Council packet.

Also present in public comment was Bobby Pfannenstiel, proprietor of the Silver Lake Car Wash. Mr. Pfannenstiel expressed his concerns regarding a recent water shut-off incident, emphasizing the importance of timely notifications as an unexpected water shut-off can jeopardize his equipment, particularly the pumps. Mr. Pfannenstiel mentioned that he had previously informed Public Works Superintendent Cary Deiter about the potential risks and felt it was also essential for the Council to be aware. He highlighted that the City has had his contact details for years and anticipated prior communication in situations like these.

Addressing Mr. Pfannenstiel's concerns about the City's potential liability if his pumps were damaged, Mayor Mack Smith acknowledged the need for improved communication. The Mayor noted that such an incident was rare, occurring only once in the last twenty-five years. However, to mitigate future communication lapses, the City is in the process of developing a notification system. Additionally, Mayor Smith personally conveyed his appreciation for Mr. Pfannenstiel's business. In response, Mr. Pfannenstiel voiced his feelings about the perceived lack of support from the City, to which Mayor Smith clarified that, while he can't speak for everyone, he genuinely values the car wash's presence in the community.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ross to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of the August 21, 2023 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and carried.

Councilmember Bryant presented the monthly financial report.

Brian Foster of BG Consultants attended the meeting to elaborate on the city's need to upgrade its water lines dating back to the 1940s and 1970s. He presented various funding alternatives to the Council and detailed a 3-year project timeline: the first year for planning, the second for design, and the third for construction. He clarified that typical arrangements wouldn't require the City to make payments until post-construction. Mr. Foster highlighted that if the city is added to the intended use list by June 2024, a complete application could be filed by fall 2024, setting 2025 as the planning year. He emphasized the need for an updated preliminary engineering report for the application, estimating the update at approximately 5,000 dollars with a couple of months for completion. The Council instructed Mr. Foster to include the City on the 2024 intended use list.

Head Silver Lake High School Dance Coach, Jena Brown, accompanied by Senior Jersey Manhart, approached the Council to seek sponsorship for six seniors aiming to participate in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City this upcoming November. Councilmember Ross made a motion to donate 100 dollars to the Silver Lake Dance Team Seniors for their trip. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Robinson and carried.

Claim vouchers in the amount of 7265.82 dollars were submitted to the Council for appropriation. An Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Appropriating Money to Pay Certain Claims" was introduced. A motion was made by Councilmember Robinson and seconded by Councilmember Ross that said Ordinance be accepted as read and was then placed on final passage by a roll call vote: AYE: Brad Bryant, Steve Pegram, Heath Robinson, and Larry Ross.(4) NAY: None. With no further discussion the Ordinance was declared passed and was given No. 2579.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to approve the Special Event Cereal Malt Beverage License for Whiskey Wagon. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant, and with no further discussion, the motion carried.

Councilmember Ross made a motion to approve a Salary Ordinance for a Part-Time Police Officer. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and was then placed on final passage by a roll call of the following vote: AYE: Brad Bryant, Steve Pegram, Heath Robinson, and Larry Ross (4). NAY: None. With no further discussion, the Ordinance was declared passed and was given No. 2581.

A motion was made by Councilmember Robinson, seconded by Councilmember Bryant and approved to adopt Resolution 2023-06 that would waive the requirements of K.S.A. 75-1120a(a) for the year 2023. This statute relates to the generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in the preparation of financial statements and reports.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to reinvest two Certificates of Deposit that matured on September 10, 2023 at Stockgrowers State Bank, for twelve-month terms at a rate of 4.33 percent. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and passed. The interest earned from these CD's is applied to the General Fund.

City Clerk Liz Steckel presented Council with a final draft franchise agreement from Evergy. This agreement maintains the current franchise fee rate of five (5) percent, and has an option that would allow the City to consider franchise fee changes every five (5) years. The term of this franchise agreement is twenty (20) years from the effective date of the ordinance. The agreement was reviewed by City Attorney Luckman. A motion was made by Councilmember Robinson to approve the franchise agreement with Evergy for a term of twenty (20) years. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ross and was placed on final passage by a roll call vote: AYE: Brad Bryant, Steve Pegram, Heath Robinson, and Larry Ross.(4) NAY: None. With no further discussion the Ordinance was declared passed and was given No. 2580.

Councilmember Pegram presented a bid from Apptegy for a package that includes website development, hosting, and a citizen notification system integrated with social media. The proposal outlined a 7,500 dollars initial setup cost and an annual fee of 6,000 dollars. Mayor Mack Smith emphasized the need for telephone notifications. After discussing the matter, the Council decided to look into alternative solutions. They tasked Councilmember Pegram with researching systems used by other cities, with plans to discuss various emergency notification options at the next meeting.

Mayor Smith happily announced the return of Police Chief Marc McCune. Chief McCune commended Public Works Superintendent Dieter and his team for their significant contributions to the enhanced cleanliness of the town's yards. Chief McCune noted that Superintendent Dieter has effectively achieved compliance from residents, resulting in the removal of items that had accumulated over the years. Chief McCune presented the monthly police activity report.

Chief McCune presented three training requests to the Council. He explained that full-time officers are mandated to undergo 40 hours of training annually. The upcoming KPOA (Kansas Peace Officer Association) training spans three days with a fee of 175 dollars; including lodging, with a total cost of 514 dollars. This training will account for half of Chief McCune's annual training hours. Additionally, there is a two-day de-escalation training in Alma in October, which is free of charge. Lastly, a four-day training session is scheduled in Salina in November, with a cost of 50 dollars, with no associated lodging expenses. Council directed Chief McCune to participate in all the mentioned trainings.

Chief McCune expressed his gratitude to the Council for approving Police Administrative Assistant Shelbi Scarbrough's attendance at the upcoming Child Passenger Safety training. Completion of this training will certify Scarbrough as a state-recognized child safety seat installer.

Chief McCune thanked everyone for their thoughts.

Public Works Superintendent Deiter presented the water report, highlighting the seven tests conducted due to the boil advisory. Mayor Smith commended Superintendent Deiter and Assistant Kirk for their exemplary work on the City Hall renovation. Deiter informed the Council of a malfunctioning windshield wiper on the flatbed truck and his intentions to seek an estimate in St. Mary's, where he'll also inquire about a replacement for a leaking cylinder. Councilmember Ross and City Clerk Liz Steckel both praised the Public Works team, with Steckel expressing her pride in working in such a beautifully refurbished Council room.

Council directed City Clerk Steckel to refund rental fees for a community group using the Community Center Parking Lot as their garage sale location.

Council authorized City Clerk Steckel to post meeting details, permit prices and forms, office hours, and other relevant website information on Facebook.

Police Administrative Assistant Scarbrough warmly welcomed Chief McCune back and expressed her gratitude to Officer Ashcraft, City Clerk Steckel, and Assistant Clerk Beam for their guidance and support during his absence.

Councilmember Pegram signed off at 6:25 PM.

Mayor Smith reported that there has been no update from KDHE regarding Gary Taylor's water operator application.

The City's Annual Fall Community Clean-up is set for Saturday, September 16th, from 8am until dumpsters are full at Little Lake Park. Free dumpsters will be available for residents to dispose of trash, concrete, yard waste, cardboard, and glass.

Mayor Smith complimented City Clerk Steckel on the sales tax information flyer.

The next two meetings are scheduled for September 18, 2023 and October 2, 2023, both at 5:30 PM.

Councilmember Ross made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 PM. Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion and with nothing further to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.


Liz Steckel, City Clerk