REGULAR SESSION

Monday, June 6, 2022

The Governing Body of the City of Silver Lake met in regular session at City Hall on Monday evening June 6, 2022, at 5:30 PM with Mayor Mack Smith conducting the meeting and the following Councilmembers present: Brad Bryant, Jake Fisher, Steve Pegram, Heath Robinson and Larry Ross (5). Also present was City Attorney Todd Luckman, Public Works Superintendent Willie Smith, Police Chief Marc McCune, City Clerk Liz Steckel, and Assistant Clerk Marie Beam.

For Public Comment, local business owner Melinda Field was present to thank Public Works Superintendent Smith for the repairs to the sidewalk in her neighborhood. Local resident Lori Klein was present to request a large pothole on Thomas Road be repaired. Councilmember Robinson and Public Works Superintendent Smith agreed to assess the situation when the water has evaporated out of the pothole. Local Resident Chris Goodman was present to discuss the condition of the culverts in town. She requested that the City remind homeowners around town to clean out the culverts under their driveways, which are the homeowners’ responsibility. She also requested the City clean out all culverts under streets to help improve drainage around town. Public Works Superintendent and City Engineer Cox will look into the issue. Local business owner Jeff Wooster recommended reminders to clean out culverts be sent out on the water bills.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ross to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2022 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fisher and carried.

Councilmember Bryant presented the monthly financial report.

Claim vouchers in the amount of 21542.90 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 Fisher that said Ordinance be accepted as read and was then placed on final passage by a roll call vote: AYE: Brad Bryant, Jake Fisher, Steve Pegram, Heath Robinson and Larry Ross (5) NAY: None. With no further discussion the Ordinance was declared passed and was given No. 2529.

April Swartz from Varney & Associates presented the 2021 Audit Report.

City Clerk Steckel reported back to Council with the information requested at the previous meeting regarding replacing the Clerks’ desktop computers with laptops. Clerk Steckel reported that laptops could not replace the desktops due to security reasons, however laptops would be best in addition to the desktops. Councilmember Ross made a motion to accept the quote from Advantage Computer for two laptops for 3351.00 dollars. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and passed.

Public Works Superintendent Smith presented a cost estimate of 9320.00 dollars for the installation of a new light at the City’s Welcome Sign. This expense is not in the 2022 budget. Council suggested that this cost be added to a future budget. Councilmember Robinson also suggested that Superintendent Smith purchase inexpensive temporary solar lights until a future repair project could be considered.

Superintendent Smith also presented an estimate for a pathway extension from Lakewood Terrace to Rice Court. The estimated cost of an asphalt milling pathway is 8802.00 dollars and the estimated cost of a concrete sidewalk would be an additional 9100.00 dollars for a total of 17902.00 dollars. Council will consider this estimate for a future budget.

Police Chief McCune presented the Monthly Police Report. Chief McCune reported that he is working on getting as much police coverage as possible planned for the upcoming Lake Days Celebration. Chief McCune told Council he has purchased twenty-five gun locks to be given to any citizen of Silver Lake that requests one. Chief McCune requested Officer Ashcraft be allowed to attend training. Councilmember Ross made a motion to approve the request not to exceed 1000.00 dollars. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Pegram and passed. The Silver Lake Police Department received a kind donation from Connie Arbogast in remembrance of Phil Runkle. The Lions Club donated the bench placed in front of the New Police Department.

Public Works Utility Superintendent Smith presented the Monthly Public Works Report. Superintendent Smith requested an additional 1000.00 dollars in addition to the original request of 2500 dollars to have the limbs from the recent storm mulched. Councilmember Fisher made a motion to approve the request not to exceed a total of 3500.00 dollars. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Pegram and passed. The signed contract for the 2022 Street Project has been received and City Clerk Steckel is to send the notice to proceed to the contractor.

City Clerk Steckel told Council that the City has received a 769.50 dollar refund on the property taxes paid for the Police Station. Mrs. Steckel thanked Council for allowing her to attend International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) Conference in Little Rock, AR. Mrs. Steckel also requested to donate coins and books from the City’s Centennial Celebration she found in the City Hall Attic to the Lake Days Committee. It was so directed. City Clerk Steckel told Council she donated the City’s old Christmas Tree to the town of Assaria, Kansas.

Councilmember Pegram asked Mrs. Steckel if any progress had been made with finding grants for the City. City Clerk Steckel requested to attend a grant writing training for 50.00 dollars. Council granted the request. Councilmember Pegram has been in contact with Craig Barnes from Shawnee County regarding the City of Silver Lake’s Mosquito control program. Councilmember Pegram and Superintendent Smith are to visit with Mr. Barnes and report back to Council. Councilmember Pegram reported that the outcome of the Grade Schooler’s vote on the color of the eagle on the water tower is maroon.

Councilmember Robinson requested mosquito spraying begin as soon as possible. Councilmember Robinson reported the staffing numbers he requested at the previous meeting. In 1990 the City employed (4) full-time and (2) part-time employees, in 2000 (5) full-time and (5) part-time, in 2010 (5) full-time and (7) part-time, in 2020 (5) full-time and (8) part-time, and finally in 2022 the City employs (6) full-time and (6) part-time employees. He also reported the number of employees of four Kansas cities of similar population, Arma employs -16, Belle Plaine -15, Colwich-12 and Inman-10 employees, making Silver Lake very comparable to other cities. Councilmember Robinson reported a property in town with tall weeds. Councilmember Robinson also discussed the short time that the limb dump site was open as well as thanking the Public Works Department for opening it.

Mayor Smith asked for an update on the issue of phone and internet being shut off at the Old Police Station. City Clerk Steckel is to order a temporary modem to get internet service back in the Station. Police Chief McCune will use the phone at the New Police Station. Mayor Smith asked for an update on removing Verizon’s antennas from the water tower during the painting process. Mayor Smith let Council know that City Engineer Cox is working on updating the City’s Zoning Maps. Mayor Smith recommended that Superintendent Smith review all bills relating to his department before City Clerk Steckel presents them to Council for approval.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2022, at 5:30 PM. The following meetings are scheduled for Thursday July 7, 2022, at 5:30 PM, due to the 4th of July Holiday, and Monday, July 18, 2022, at 5:30 PM. Municipal Court is scheduled for Wednesday June 8, 2022, at 5:00 PM.

With no further business to come before Council, Councilmember Ross moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 PM. Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Marie Beam, Assistant Clerk