

**City of Silver Lake
Regular Session Minutes
Monday, July 17, 2023**

The Governing Body of the City of Silver Lake met in regular session at City Hall on Monday evening July 17, 2023, with Mayor Mack Smith conducting the meeting and the following Councilmembers present: Brad Bryant, Jake Fisher (arrived at 5:39PM), Steve Pegram, Heath Robinson, and Larry Ross (5). Also present were Public Works Superintendent Cary Deiter, City Clerk Liz Steckel, and Assistant Clerk Marie Beam.

American Legion representatives, Jim Thompson and Ken Rakestraw were present for public comment to inquire about the City's interest in having the Legion cover the Legion Memorial, which is owned by the City, with artificial turf and replace the current fence around the memorial with a new fence. Council directed the gentlemen to proceed with the improvements to the American Legion Memorial.

A motion was made by Councilmember Ross to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of the July 3, 2023 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Pegram and carried.

Claim vouchers in the amount of 7001.57 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 Ross and seconded by Councilmember Bryant 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. 2572.

Councilmember Ross made a motion to approve the Liquor License for Blacksmith Event Centre. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant, and with no further discussion, the motion carried.

Council postponed the new employee handbook discussion until City Attorney Luckman can be present for the discussion.

As the next step in strategic planning for the City, Council reviewed action steps that were prepared by Councilmember Pegram for the City's fourth goal of improving the shared places and spaces for recreation and leisure time. The steps presented for discussion by Council were: exploration of grant opportunities, supporting the efforts to utilize the Lake of Silver Lake for recreation and education, assigning a planning commission to explore enrichment options within the city parks, and collaborating with Shawnee County Parks and Recreation to bring more activities to our community.

A motion was made by Councilmember Robinson and seconded by Councilmember Pegram to adopt the Strategic Planning Executive Summary as amended by Council's addition of research and planning on the four bulleted goals.

Council discussed the Local Sales Tax question that has been added to the November ballot. Councilmember Ross inquired about literature that could help educate the public about local sales tax facts. Councilmember Bryant asked that the question be added to the website, stating that it is important that people know what they are voting for. Mayor Smith asked that a discussion on the intended use of a local sales tax be added to the next agenda.

The motion to adopt the Strategic Planning Executive Summary was carried.

Public Works Superintendent Deiter inquired about any legal purpose of the enclosure surrounding the shelter house at Lions Park. Deiter said that he would like to remove the fence around the shelter house, if possible, as well as removing 10-feet of the fence around the tennis court. He would like to till and plant seed around the court, order a new net, and restripe the court. Finally, Deiter expressed interest in installing new horseshoe pits for the community. Council decided to discuss this further when City Attorney Luckman can be consulted.

Superintendent Deiter reported to Council that the diesel Exmark Mower has a blown motor and it is still under warranty. Deiter would like to have it repaired, and then trade-in the diesel mower for two gas mowers with a total cost after trade-in of 16,468.00 dollars. The City would then own four mowers. Superintendent Deiter explained to Council that his plan for the future is to trade-in mowers every three years, to ensure that they are always covered by a warranty. A motion was made by Councilmember Ross to trade-in the diesel Exmark Mower and purchase two new gas mowers with a total cost, paid out of the City's Capital Improvement Fund, not to exceed 17,000 dollars. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Pegram and carried.

A draft version of the 2024 budget was presented to Council. Councilmember Pegram made a motion to notify the Shawnee County Clerk of the City of Silver Lake's intent to exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate with a proposed mill levy of 30. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ross 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 motion was passed.

The Council spent some time reviewing the budget documents and preparing themselves for conversations and discussions on City budget topics. The Revenue Neutral Rate Hearing as well as the Budget Hearing will take place on Thursday, August 21, 2023 at 5:30 PM, at City Hall.

Public Works Superintendent Deiter presented the June Public Works Report. Deiter reported that his staff would be available to open the lagoon for dumping fallen brush during work hours. If the public is in need of this service, please contact Mr. Deiter. Public Works Assistant Kirk will be in charge while Deiter is on vacation, and Kirk will be spraying for mosquitos twice a week.

Councilmember Ross complimented the Public Works staff as well as Shawnee County Fire District #1 staff for removing limbs from the streets fast and efficiently during the storms last week.

City Clerk Liz Steckel read the Police Report from Police Officer Doug Ashcraft. Officer Ashcraft assisted with the 4th of July Parade and attended the local fireworks show and touch a truck at the farmer's market.

Officer Ashcraft has prepared two quotes for the repair of the air conditioning condenser in police vehicle number three. Gray's Auto Repair will charge 1063.14 dollars for the new condenser and installation. Briggs Dodge quoted Officer Ashcraft 1416.28 for the condenser, but would charge more for labor. A motion was made by Councilmember Ross to approve the installation of the new condenser by Gray's Auto Repair, for an amount not to exceed 1200.00 dollars. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Robinson and carried.

Mrs. Steckel read that July 1 is the beginning of the new training year for mandatory 40 hours of law enforcement training. As required in the employee handbook, Officer Ashcraft requested to attend a seminar in Wichita on July 31 through August 2. The hotel and training will not cost the city anything; the only cost to the city is the training time. The training is supported by the Kansas Attorney General's Office. It is a good deal to get 20 hours of training for minimal cost. Council directed Officer Ashcraft to attend the training in Wichita.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to elect City Clerk Steckel as the City's voting delegate for the League of Kansas Municipalities' Annual Business Meeting which will be held on October 9, 2023 in Wichita. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ross and carried.

Councilmember Pegram noted that City staff was mentioned in Kansas Rural Water Association's July 2023 publication of Kansas Lifeline for innovative corrective action on our lagoon system.

Councilmember Pegram reminded Council that the local farmer's market will be holding it's Christmas in July event to include a rib fundraiser to benefit USD 372's Coffee Shop Project tomorrow night from 6-8 PM.

Councilmember Robinson reported that the 2023 street project looks good. Robinson also inquired about some vacant lots with tall weeds on Lakeland Drive.

Mayor Mack Smith notified Council that City Engineer Pat Cox has placed the City on the list for Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Intended Use Plan which allows municipalities to be considered for State Revolving Fund (SRF) Borrowing, should it be needed in the future.

Councilmember Ross made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 PM. Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion and with nothing further to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.



Liz Steckel, City Clerk