

**City of Silver Lake
Regular Session Minutes
Monday, November 20, 2023**

The Governing Body of the City of Silver Lake met in regular session at City Hall on Monday evening November 20, 2023, with Mayor Mack Smith conducting the meeting and the following Councilmembers present: Brad Bryant, Jake Fisher, Steve Pegram, and Heath Robinson (4). Absent: Larry Ross (1). Also present were Public Works Assistant Brad Kirk, Police Chief Marc McCune, City Clerk Liz Steckel, and Assistant Clerk Marie Beam.

A motion was made by Councilmember Pegram to approve the regular meeting minutes of the November 6, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and carried.

Claim vouchers in the amount of 12791.40 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 Pegram 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, and Heath Robinson (4). NAY: None. With no further discussion the Ordinance was declared passed and was given No. 2587.

The Silver Lake After Prom Fundraising Chair sent a letter to Council requesting donations. Councilmember Robinson made a motion that was seconded by Councilmember Fisher to donate 500 dollars. The motion passed with all ayes.

Councilmember Fisher pointed out that the one percent sales tax, officially certified today following the election, has been successfully passed. In light of this development, Councilmember Fisher made a motion for the City to abstain from increasing water and sewer rates for the year 2024. Councilmember Pegram suggested having KRWA repeat the water and sewer rate study in another year. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and carried.

City Attorney Luckman updated the Council on discussions about trading in the backhoe for a 2024 UTV, mentioning that Tim Pralle from Heritage Tractor assured him the UTV order wouldn't be placed until 30-60 days after Council approval. Public Works Assistant Kirk informed Council of a buyer for the backhoe. Luckman clarified that the City's obligation is contingent on John Deere accepting the order, and until then, the City can withdraw it. In summary, the City may not have a buyer for the backhoe in six weeks, and the City retains the flexibility to withdraw the UTV order as John Deere has not accepted it.

Councilmember Pegram motioned to proceed with the transaction, trading in the backhoe for 12,000 dollars and ordering the 2023 John Deere Gator at a cost of 22,069.20 dollars after the trade-in.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to approve a Salary Ordinance for the Public Works Assistant. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fisher and was then placed on final passage by a roll call of the following vote: AYE: Brad Bryant, Jake Fisher, Steve Pegram, and Heath Robinson (4). NAY: None. With no further discussion, the Ordinance was declared passed and was given No. 2588.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to approve a Salary Ordinance for City employees effective January 1, 2024. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Pegram and was then placed on final passage by a roll call of the following vote: AYE: Brad Bryant, Jake Fisher, Steve Pegram, and Heath Robinson (4). NAY: None. With no further discussion, the Ordinance was declared passed and was given No. 2589.

City Attorney Luckman reviewed the land swap proposal, collaborating with USD #372 attorneys to make necessary changes. The South-North drive stays with the school. He'll present the final draft of land swap proposal and update Council on the current Hook Farm agreement at the next Council meeting.

Public Works Assistant Brad Kirk informed the Council that the Public Works team replaced the fire hydrant on the West side of town without any need for a City shutdown. Kirk also mentioned that Bahm Demolition generously donated a dumpster to facilitate a cleanup project at the City shop.

A motion was made by Councilmember Pegram to approve a temporary road closure request for the City's Annual Tree Lighting Celebration, for December 2, from 2PM to 6:30PM. Beaubien will be closed from Highway-24 to the Post Office Parking Lot. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fisher and carried.

City Attorney Luckman informed the Council that his rates would be increasing to 200.00 dollars per hour from 175.00 dollars per hour, effective January 1, 2024.

Councilmember Robinson, drawing from his experience as the City's street commissioner, advised the Council. He emphasized the importance of early identification of street projects to secure a spot on the list ahead of other towns. Robinson recommended completing entire streets rather than stopping halfway to avoid the need for future returns. He urged consideration of using higher-quality asphalt, citing issues with cracking in a recent street project. Robinson highlighted that asphalt quality is specified in bids and impacts longevity. Public Works Assistant Kirk added that digging deeper and using thicker materials could enhance road durability. Councilmember Robinson suggested considering Rice Road for the next street project.

The next two meetings are scheduled for Mondays, December 4, 2023 and December 18, 2023, both at 5:30 PM. The meeting December 18th, will be held at the Silver Lake Community Center, 404 E. Lake Street.

Councilmember Robinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 PM. Councilmember Bryant seconded the motion and with nothing further to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Liz Steckel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Liz" written in a large, stylized font.

Liz Steckel, City Clerk