

**City of Silver Lake  
Regular Session Minutes  
Monday, December 4, 2023**

The Governing Body of the City of Silver Lake met in regular session at City Hall on Monday evening December 4, 2023, with Mayor Mack Smith conducting the meeting and the following Councilmembers present: Brad Bryant, Jake Fisher, Steve Pegram, Heath Robinson, and Larry Ross (5). Absent: None(0). 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 20, 2023 meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ross and carried.

Councilmember Bryant presented the monthly financial report.

Claim vouchers in the amount of 8,245.06 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, 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. 2590.

Three Cereal Malt Beverage applications were presented to Council. Councilmember Ross made the motion to approve the applications of Silver Lake 66, Casey's #1196 and Wehner's Thriftway for Cereal Malt Beverage Licenses. The Motion was seconded by Councilmember Bryant and carried.

An Ordinance levying a special purpose City retailers' sales tax in the amount of one percent (1.0%) within the City of Silver Lake, Kansas, Effective April 1, 2024, was presented to Council. A motion was made by Councilmember Pegram 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. 2591

A motion was made by Councilmember Pegram to approve a contract for a Land Swap with Silver Lake Schools USD #372. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Fisher and carried.

Police Chief McCune presented the monthly activity report.

Chief McCune sought clarification from the Council regarding the distinction between part-time employees allowed to work 750 hours and those permitted to work 999 hours. City Attorney Luckman and Mayor Mack Smith explained that the difference is rooted in budgetary considerations.

Public Works Assistant Brad Kirk presented the monthly Public Works Report.

City Clerk Steckel requested to purchase water billing cards for 2024. Councilmember Bryant made a motion to approve the billing card purchase from Jayhawk Software for 1140.00 dollars. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Robinson and carried.

City Clerk Steckel provided an update to the Council regarding essential City services. First, she highlighted the need for an email billing module from Jayhawk Software to expedite bill delivery due to slow mail services. The one-time cost for this module is 750.00. Additionally, Mrs. Steckel informed the Council that CivicPlus, the chosen company for the Emergency Notification System, does not compile data which she had anticipated. Consequently, the launch of the system will experience a slight delay, as staff will manually need to gather contact information. Steckel described plans to combine efforts by creating an online survey to collect customer water line inventory data, emergency notification information, and potentially, email billing data. Councilmember Pegram motioned to approve the 750.00 purchase of the email billing module, which was seconded by Councilmember Bryant, and carried. This consolidated approach aims to efficiently address multiple needs with one strategic initiative.

City Clerk Steckel shared positive customer feedback regarding the commendable efforts of our Public Works team in preparing local roads for winter weather and their efficient clearing thereafter. The community expressed satisfaction and appreciation for the job done by the crew.

Councilmember Robinson took a moment to extend congratulations to Mayor-elect Jonah Bishop and Councilmembers-elect Michael Hamilton and Kenny Wade on their successful election. Robinson expressed his appreciation for individuals willing to serve the public and welcomed the new members, all of whom were present.

Given that Robinson's term on the Council is coming to an end, he took the opportunity to share some budgetary insights based on his experience with the City. He emphasized that certain costs of doing business tend to increase annually. In addressing these rising costs, Robinson stressed the importance of considering tax adjustments. He suggested that an effective way to manage these financial challenges is to foster City growth. By encouraging the development of new housing or businesses, the city can potentially generate additional revenue, alleviating the burden on citizens and promoting financial sustainability. Robinson highlighted the idea that as the

City expands, there is an opportunity to offset some of the financial pressures associated with ongoing expenses, ultimately benefiting the community as a whole.

Councilmember Bryant commended the City for the exceptional organization of this year's Annual Tree Lighting Event, describing it as well-planned and very nice. He specifically praised Mayor Smith for a wonderful reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

Mayor Mack Smith expressed appreciation for the successful Tree Lighting Event as well, extending gratitude to City Clerk Steckel, Police Administrative Assistant Shelbi Scarbrough, the Public Works Department and the Police Department, for their collaborative efforts in organizing and executing an outstanding community celebration.

Mayor Smith reported to the Council that Mr. Kyle McNorton, the newly appointed Legislative Representative had reached out with interest in Silver Lake. Mayor Smith took a moment to address Mayor-elect Bishop, emphasizing that Mr. McNorton is interested in the well-being of Silver Lake and he relayed that Mr. McNorton would also like to speak with Mr. Bishop.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 18, 2023, at 5:30 PM, at the Silver Lake Community Center located at 404 E. Lake Street. The following meeting, and the first for new Mayor and Councilmembers, is scheduled for Monday, January 4, 2024, at City Hall.

With no other business to come before Council, Councilmember Ross made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 PM. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Robinson and with no further discussion the motion was approved.



Liz Steckel, City Clerk