

Minutes  
Silver Lake City Council  
Regular Meeting  
July 20, 2020  
Silver Lake Auditorium

Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Members present: Mayor Dorothy Butler, Councilor Josh Winfrey, Councilor Brenda Fogarty, Councilor Chris Penaz, Councilor Nolan Johnson

Staff present: Jon Jerabek, Dale Kosek, Mark Anderson, Steve Hackbarth

Others present: Karin Ramige, Bruce Bebo, Michelle Schneider, Cory Behrendt, Harvey Mikolichek, Dale Miska, Clarence Mikolichek, Keith Anderson, Curtis Hughes, Sheriff Scott Rehman, Mark Thiry, Sandy Adams-Bruins, Robert Bruins

*Motion by Winfrey seconded by Fogarty to approve the agenda.*

*Vote for: Unanimous*

*Motion carried.*

#### Consent Agenda

1. Approve minutes from July 6, 2020 Regular Quarterly Meeting
  - a. Amended minutes to include, "Council discussed that it was necessary to increase full-time Police Officer starting wage to \$22 per hour and Police Chief starting wage to \$26 per hour" under Police Department Services section.
2. Approve Payroll #15 and June Ambulance
3. Claims to be paid:       \$81,428.12   (7/17/20)  
                                      \$25,841.65   (June EFT)

*Motion by Fogarty seconded by Johnson to approve the Consent Agenda with the amended minutes.*

*Vote for: Unanimous*

*Motion carried.*

#### Public Comment

1. Cory Behrendt commented in favor of keeping the Silver Lake Police Department.
2. Harvey Mikolichek commented in favor of contracting with McLeod County Sheriff's Office.
3. Dale Miska commented in favor of contracting with McLeod County Sheriff's Office.
4. Curtis Hughes commented in favor of keeping the Silver Lake Police Department.
5. Mark Anderson commented in favor of keeping the Silver Lake Police Department.
6. Sandy Adams-Bruins commented in favor of keeping the Silver Lake Police Department.
7. Bruce Bebo commented on keeping the Silver Lake Police Department and contracting with McLeod County Sheriff's Office.
8. Robert Bruins commented in favor of keeping the Silver Lake Police Department.
9. Keith Anderson commend in favor of keeping the Silver Lake Police Department.

#### Old Business

1. Police Department Services. Council discussion on Police Services Survey results, the hiring history of the department, the need to increase wages for officers, the positives and negatives of contracting with McLeod County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) for coverage, what would be included in the MCSO coverage, and the affect on current part-time officers if contracting with MCSO. Lester Prairie City Council decided not to pursue merger at this time with unknowns of Silver Lake Police Department.

*Motion by Butler seconded by Fogarty to keep Silver Lake Police Department and increase officer wages.*

*Vote for: Butler, Fogarty*

*Vote against: Johnson, Penaz, Winfrey*

*Motion failed.*

*Motion by Winfrey to contract with McLeod County Sheriff's Office for remainder of the year for 40 hours coverage per week.*

*Motion rescinded.*

*Motion by Winfrey seconded by Penaz to contract with McLeod County Sheriff's Office for 1 year with 40 hours per week coverage at a rate of \$59.72 per hour.*

*Vote for: Winfrey, Penaz, Johnson*

*Vote against: Butler, Fogarty*

*Motion carried.*

Special Meeting to be held on Monday, July 27 to discuss details of contract. MCSO could not provide 40-hour coverage until hiring another officer.

Mayor Butler called for a brief recess at 8:02pm. Mayor Butler called the meeting back to order at 8:11pm.

2. Preliminary Engineering Report Update. Historical/architecture review underway for proposed water treatment plant and water tower. Sludge testing at wastewater treatment ponds was performed with test results to follow.
3. Multi-Unit Housing Review. Discussed concern of occupancy at 104 Grove Ave S.
4. Local State of Emergency Review. Discussed continuing state of emergency as the State of MN extended the Peacetime Emergency.
5. Utility Payments. City Attorney advised City to not perform water shut-offs at this time. To discuss late penalties and payment options at Special Meeting on July 27.

#### New Business

1. Coronavirus Relief Fund and McLeod County Cooperation. City to receive \$60,423 in funding from Federal relief program to be used toward COVID-19 related expenses. McLeod County reached out to cities/townships on fund administration partnership to allow for uniformity and oversight. County will be hiring a consultant to assist with administration. Silver Lake would decide how funds were spent if working with County. One option for fund expense would be to award grants to businesses negatively affected by COVID-19.

*Motion by Johnson seconded by Winfrey to partner with McLeod County on Coronavirus Relief Fund administration.*

*Vote for: Unanimous*

*Motion carried.*

2. 2021 Preliminary Budget. Council reviewed first draft of expense and revenue budgets for the City. Clerk Jerabek noted that health insurance increases were budgeted at 10 percent and wage adjustments at 2.5 percent increase. Clerk Jerabek to work with department heads on refining budget and planning for future capital expenses.

#### Department Business

1. Public Works
  - a. PeopleService operational report for May reviewed.
  - b. Televising and jetting by Hydro-Kleen expected to start on July 17.
  - c. Gelhen storm sewer repair scheduled for August 3.
  - d. Tree trimming on Frank St to be completed week of July 27.
2. Public Safety
  - a. Fire Department
    - i. Reviewed run report.
    - ii. Looking into purchase of crew cab truck.
    - iii. Meetings/trainings to be held in person.
  - b. Ambulance
    - i. Discussed power cot options, wages for EMTs, recruiting and budgeting.
    - ii. Reviewed run report.
  - c. Police Department
    - i. Squad involved in deer accident on July 13. Estimates being obtained and submitted to insurance.
3. Municipal Liquor Store
  - a. Sales for June were \$51,670.28 with a loss of \$1,771.18. Year-to-date sales were \$262,586.73 with a profit of \$5,008.64.
  - b. Speakers have been added to outdoor seating area.
  - c. Request to approve part-time bartender Amy King. King was approved by Personnel Committee on June 29, 2020.  
*Motion by Penaz seconded by Winfrey to approve Amy King as part-time bartender with starting wage of \$10.53/hr.*  
*Vote for: Unanimous*  
*Motion carried.*
4. Recreation
  - a. Reviewed pool repair progress and options for a new water feature if the umbrella feature is removed, repair options for pool tiles, and replacement of diving board.
  - b. Weed control performed in parks.
  - c. Summer recreation started on July 1 and will continue through end of July and have 25 participants.
5. Community Development
  - a. Planning Commission met on July 14 and discussed water storage options and estimates for other locations, Main Street lots interest, Coronavirus Relief Funds and business grants, and the future of Police Services in the City.
6. Administration
  - a. June Treasurer's Report.

- b. Reviewed request from Tony Victorian to credit \$15.75 toward utility bill for lawn watering where sewer was not used.  
*Motion by Johnson seconded by Penaz to approve credit of \$15.75 toward sewer portion of utility bill for Tony Victorian.*  
*Vote for: Johnson, Penaz*  
*Vote against: Butler, Winfrey, Fogarty*  
*Motion failed.*
- c. Reviewed request from Jason Chrast to credit difference in average utility bill for past 18 months from June billing for sewer portion due to outside watering.  
*Motion by Penaz seconded by Fogarty to not approve credit requested by Jason Chrast.*  
*Vote for: Penaz, Fogarty, Butler, Winfrey*  
*Vote against: Johnson*  
*Motion carried.*
- d. Review seasonal step increases and COLA increases for seasonal employees.  
*Motion by Fogarty seconded by Johnson to approve COLA increases for seasonal employees Gary Kosek and Katie Nowak.*  
*Vote for: Unanimous*  
*Motion carried.*  
*Motion by Fogarty seconded by Johnson to approve seasonal step increase for Katie Nowak.*  
*Vote for: Unanimous*  
*Motion carried.*
- e. Reviewed information regarding Mileka's Run to be held on August 9. All CDC and MN Dept of Health guidelines to be followed.  
*Motion by Fogarty seconded by Johnson to allow Mileka's Run to be held on August 9.*  
*Vote for: Unanimous*  
*Motion carried.*
- f. Reviewed donation request from Southwest Initiative Foundation for \$350 in 2021.  
*Motion by Fogarty seconded by Penaz to no approve donation request from Southwest Initiative Foundation.*  
*Vote for: Unanimous*  
*Motion carried.*

Open Discussion – No open discussion.

*Motion by Winfrey seconded by Fogarty to adjourn this regular meeting of the Silver Lake City Council.*  
*Vote for: Unanimous*  
*Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 9:32pm.

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Jon Jerabek, Clerk/Treasurer

Seal of the City: