

Minutes
Silver Lake City Council
Annual Meeting
6:30pm, January 5, 2026
Silver Lake Auditorium

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

Members Present: Mayor Bruce Bebo, Councilor Roxanne Yurek, Councilor Joanna Jacobs, Councilor Josh Mason, Councilor Ted Gehring

Staff Present: Diane Pedersen

Others Present: None

Motion by Councilor Mason second by Councilor Yurek to approve the agenda. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve minutes from December 15, 2025, TNT & Regular Meeting
2. Approve Payroll #26 and Quarter 4
3. Approve Claims

Motion by Councilor Yurek second by Councilor Jacobs to approve the consent agenda. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Public Comment – None

Old Business - None

New Business

1. Resolution 26-01: Resolution Creating the Annual Appointments of the City of Silver Lake. Mayor Bebo presented his appointments for 2026:

a. Official City Depositories:

1. First Community Bank of Silver Lake
2. Minnesota Municipal Money Market Fund

Official Newspaper:

McLeod County Chronicle

City Attorney:

Gavin, Janssen & Stabenow, LTD.

Acting Mayor:

Councilor Joanna Jacobs

Deputy Weed Inspector:

Public Works Supv, Chris Penaz

Civil Defense Director/

Emergency Response Coordinator:

Sheriff Tim Langenfeld

City Administration Liaison

Mayor Bruce Bebo

Public Works Liaison

Councilor Joanna Jacobs

Public Safety Liaison

Councilor Ted Gehring

Municipal Liquor Dispensary Liaison:

Councilor Roxanne Yurek

Community Development Liaison:

Councilor Josh Mason

Assistant to all Liaisons:

Mayor Bruce Bebo

Regular Meeting Dates & Times:

3rd Monday of the month except
January and February on 3rd Tuesday.
Quarterly meetings on Monday, April
6th; Monday, July 6th & Monday Oct.
5th.

All meetings start at 6:30pm unless
otherwise noted.

**Economic Development Authority:
Right-Of-Way Director
Personnel Committee:**

Members of the City Council
Public Works Supv. Chris Penaz
Mayor Bruce Bebo
Councilor Josh Mason
Department Head Diane Pedersen

Provided Council Liaison descriptions for each member of council. Time was allowed for council members to review the descriptions and ask questions.

Motion by Councilor Jacobs second by Councilor Yurek to approve Resolution 26-01 Authorizing the Annual Appointments by the Mayor of the City of Silver Lake. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

2. Resolution 26-02: Resolution Pre-Authorizing Payments by Clerk's Warrant(s)
 - a. The Resolution authorizes Clerk Pedersen to pay certain claims prior to Council approval and to utilize Electronic Fund Transfers.

Motion by Councilor Yurek second by Councilor Mason to approve Resolution 26-02 Pre-authorizing payments by clerk's warrant. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

3. Resolution 26-03: Resolution Declaring City Council Members as Employees of the City
 - a. The Resolution designated the City Council as employees to be covered under Workers Compensation Insurance.

Motion by Councilor Mason second by Councilor Jacobs to approve Resolution 26-03 declaring city council members as employees of the city to be covered under Workers Compensation Insurance. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

4. Resolution 26-04: Resolution Classifying Fund Balances for Financial Reporting Purposes
 - a. The Resolution classified all City Funds except enterprise funds and those funds with negative ending balances at the end of 2025 as required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

Motion by Councilor Jacobs second by Councilor Yurek to approve Resolution 26-04 Classifying Fund Balances for Financial Reporting Purposes. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

5. Resolution 26-05: Resolution Approving Not to Waive the Monetary Limits on Municipal Tort Liability.
 - a. MN State Statute sets a limit on tort liability claims unless a City chooses to waive them.
 - i. Torts are tied to civil court claims and are meant to hold someone accountable for a violation without involving criminal punishment.
 - ii. The resolution does not waive those limits.

Motion by Councilor Mason second by Councilor Gehring to approve Resolution 26-05 approving not to waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

6. Resolution 26-06: Resolution Making Appointments to Authorized Signers for the City of Silver Lake.
 - a. The Resolution appoints Mayor Bruce Bebo, City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Pedersen, and Deputy Clerk Carly Mathews (in the absence of the city clerk) as authorized signers for 2026.

Motion by Councilor Jacobs second by Councilor Mason to approve Resolution 26-06: Resolution approving Mayor Bruce Bebo, City Clerk/Treasurer Diane Pedersen, and Deputy Clerk Carly Mathews (in the absence of the city clerk) as authorized signers. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

7. Discussion held regarding Township contributions for Fire Department and Ambulance and contracts for Fire Department.
 - a. Fire Department
 - i. Contract amounts increased slightly due to requesting funds for future equipment needs.
 - ii. Approval of Fire Department township contracts.

1. Hale Township

Motion by Councilor Yurek second by Councilor Jacobs to approve the 2026 Fire Department contract with Hale Township in the amount of \$56,889. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

2. Hasson Valley Township

Motion by Councilor Gehring second by Councilor Mason to approve the 2026 Fire Department contract with Hasson Valley Township in the amount of \$748. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

3. Rich Valley Township

Motion by Councilor Jacobs second by Councilor Yurek to approve the 2026 Fire Department contract with Rich Valley Township in the amount of \$24,448. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

4. Winsted Township

Motion by Councilor Mason second by Councilor Jacobs to approve the 2026 Fire Department contract with Winsted Township in the amount of \$4,938. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

b. Ambulance

- i. The ambulance service is obligated to cover the area described in their Primary Service Area (PSA), so they ask for donations rather than prepare contracts as they need to respond to calls within their area no matter what.

Open Discussion

1. Councilor Gehring discussed developing a city plan to a 0% increase in property tax next year.
2. Councilor Gehring discussed the remodel of city hall.
3. Councilor Gehring requested that the new Minnesota State Flag be flown in the council chambers in place of the flag that is currently flown.

Motion by Councilor Yurek second by Councilor Jacobs to only fly the US Flag in the council chambers Vote for: Councilor Yurek, Councilor Jacobs. Vote Against: Mayor Bebo, Councilor Gehring. Abstained: Councilor Mason. Motion failed.

Motion by Councilor Jacobs second by Councilor Gehring to fly both Minnesota State Flags in the council chambers Vote for: Councilor Jacobs, Councilor Gehring, Mayor Bebo. Vote Against: Councilor Yurek. Abstained: Councilor Mason. Motion carried

4. Discussed how to obtain water to fill an ice rink.

Motion by Councilor Yurek second by Councilor Gehring to adjourn the meeting Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Diane E. Pedersen, Clerk/Treasurer

Seal of the City: