

Minutes
Silver Lake City Council
Regular Meeting
6:30pm, March 16, 2026
Silver Lake Auditorium

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

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Diane Pedersen

Others Present: Jason Scott, Seth Looft, David Broll (on speaker phone), Deputy Jensen

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

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve minutes from February 17, 2026, Regular Meeting
2. Approve minutes from March 10, 2026, Special Meeting
3. Approve Payroll 4 & 5, February Council and Ambulance
4. Approve Claims

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

Public Comment – None

New Business

1. Mosquito Management Agreement
 - a. Jason Scott – Vector Disease Control International (VDCI)
 - i. Explained their business to the council and presented a spraying contract.
 1. Usually 9-14 weekly/bi-weekly/other treatments for \$512 per treatment
 2. Treatment rate was calculated on eight (8) miles of streets. The actual number of street miles in Silver Lake is 7.41, so the quote will be adjusted.
 3. Also provide Larvicide treatments
 - ii. Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management, Inc. emailed a contract for council review.
 1. 11 weekly/bi-weekly Treatments for \$514 per treatment or \$5654 for the season. This is a 5.11% increase over last year.
 2. 15 weekly/bi-weekly treatments for \$479 per treatment or \$7185 for the season. This is a 5.04% increase over last year.
2. The Broll Team – Seth Looft
 - a. Mr. Looft discussed the next phase of development on Century Lane.
 - i. Potential interest from builders looking for opportunities in the area/community.
 - ii. Prior building agreement 15-20 years ago, early 2000's -> about 41 parcels.
 - iii. Remaining land is 17 acres -> 27-40 total housing units, depending on the type of homes built.
 - iv. \$200,000-250,000 property taxes -> city share about \$100,000-\$150,000 tax base (56%).
 - v. Development plan includes a potential city park.

- vi. The land is currently not within city limits, so it would need to be annexed in.
 - vii. Is the past agreement still the standard agreement or does it need to be updated.
 - viii. Will the sewer system and water tower be able to handle another 40 lots.
 - ix. Have the agreement/amendment reviewed by the city attorney or other appropriate person.
3. Request for Action to approve the use of the \$3000 budgeted city funds for the Saturday wrestling event during Pola-Czesky Days.

Motion by Councilor Gehring second by Councilor Mason to approve the request to use the \$3000 budgeted funds for the Pola-Czesky Days wrestling event. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

4. Reviewed McLeod County Hearing Notice.

Department Business

1. Public Works

a. Public Works Liaison Report

- i. Continue to do cleanup around the city.
- ii. Continue to do locates, televising and repairs for the infrastructure project.
- iii. Starting spring projects, including installing donated basketball backboards and hoops in the park by the pool.
- iv. Starting pool prep and chemical ordering.
- v. Purchased a tool cat from Bobcat of Watertown, SD.
- vi. Requesting to award the sealed tractor bid to Jason Hecksel at a price of \$1500. Six bids were received by the deadline; one was received after the deadline.
 - 1. The \$1500 will be deposited into 404 Public Works Equipment funds.

Motion by Councilor Jacobs second by Councilor Mason to approve the award of the sealed bid for the PW tractor to Jason Hecksel for a price of \$1500. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- i. Request to purchase a broom sweeper for the tool cat at a cost of around \$6500.

1. Request for more information

- a. What is the plan for the lawn mower and sweeper
- b. What equipment can be replaced with the new tool cat.
- c. What is the value of the current mower if it is sold.
 - i. Discussion is tabled until April regular meeting when more information is available.

- b. Reviewed PeopleService reports.

2. Public Safety

a. Fire Department

- i. Fire calls reviewed.
- ii. The fire department will be receiving a 2015 Chevrolet 1-ton pickup through the DNR on April 1, 2026. The Relief Association is funding the initial purchase.
- iii. The 6x6 Grass Unit (Gamma Goat) is being returned to the DNR due to mechanical issues.
- iv. The Lion's Ice Golf meat raffle was a very successful fundraiser. Thank you, Silver Lake Lions, for the opportunity.
- v. The department is gearing up for grass fire season by moving equipment from the Gamma Goat to the Gord (black) pickup.
- vi. Three firefighters attended SASCs training at Lake Crystal over the weekend. Classes they attended included Electric Vehicle Fire/Extrication, Ag Equipment Extrication, and Cold-Water Rescue.
- vii. The next fire department fundraiser will be the car show in May.

b. Sheriff's Report

- i. Reviewed Event Totals Report
- ii. Reviewed Police Hours
- iii. Discussed blight

1. Does the city want to add a statement as to how many vehicles are allowed on a residential lot.
 2. Does the city want to add a statement that a lot must have a residential dwelling for storage of vehicles to be allowed on a lot.
- c. Ambulance
- iv. Hosted semi-annual refresher course on February 28 – March 1.
 - v. Chief Ardolf-Mason attended Annual Township meeting on Tuesday, March 10th. Both Hale and Rich Valley townships approved of the requested amounts.
 - vi. Staffing reviewed
 - vii. Calls reviewed
2. Municipal Liquor Store/Auditorium
- a. Business Review
 - i. New menu launched on February 1, 2026.
 - ii. The paper had nice write-ups about the Muni and Ice Golf.
 - b. Staffing Review
 - i. Working on reviews.
 - ii. Kitchen position review – discussed elimination of the position.
 - c. Operations Review
 - i. Kitchen equipment works well and helps with efficiency.
 - ii. Price changes went into effect by 3/1/2026. Will continue to review for trends.
 - iii. “Muni Jam” ready to move forward
 1. 4 bands
 2. 3 food trucks
 3. Sponsors are coming in: Prinsbank is a title/event partner.
 - iv. Project Gamechanger is evolving and still moving forward.
 - d. Auditorium Review
 - i. Events continue to be added to the calendar.
 - ii. Will be communicating bartender fees for organizations requesting a bartender for their event. Will send out a letter in April.
 - e. Facilities Review
 - i. Per the auditor, actual electric utilities are being charged to the MLS in the month they are received rather than paying them from a payable account and transferring a standard amount via a journal entry. This will more accurately reflect the true monthly expenses but does not change the annual total.
 - ii. Kitchen sinks will be an extensive project. One quote has been received so far.
 - iii. Walk-in cooler needs more parts. Working with techs regarding why it runs 24/7 and how to make it more efficient. It is an old system from the 1990’s.
 - iv. Working to get exterior pain quotes prior to Muni Jam.
 - f. Action Items
 - i. Request to approve the elimination of the kitchen help position due to the efficiency of the new equipment.

Motion by Councilor Yurek second by Councilor Jacobs to eliminate the kitchen help position at the Municipal Liquor Store. The motion is amended to include the effective date of March 20, 2026. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- g. Financials were reviewed
 - i. MTD Loss of (\$6674.31) compared to (\$7309.71) last year.
 - ii. YTD Profit \$4108.56 compared to \$9333.61 last year.

3. Community Development

- a. Recommend declaring a vacancy due to the resignation of a member.
 - i. The vacancy will be posted in the display case, auditorium, bank, post office, on the city website, Facebook, and the LED sign as open until filled.

Motion by Councilor Mason second by Councilor Jacobs to declare a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- b. Mythical Tails owners, Jackson Eggert and Katie Fogelberg, have submitted a variance application for a home occupation sign located at 1104 Main St W for the following two variances:
 - i. Type 2 Home Occupation signs in the R-1 Low Density Residential District are restricted in size to two square feet. They are requesting a 4x2 (8 square feet) sign.
 - ii. Type 2 Home Occupation signs in the R-1 Low Density Residential District are to be placed on the building, not be free-standing.
 - iii. A public hearing has been set for Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 7:00pm in the council chambers.
- c. Reviewed Zoning Ordinance Sections 3-5.
 - i. Section 4.01 Off-Street Parking Requirements
 - 1. Add the statement “The size of a parking space shall follow the MN Administrative Rule 2400.2825 Construction and Design of Off-Street Parking Spaces”.
- 4. Administration
 - a. Clerk’s Report
 - i. Reviewed February Treasurer’s Report
 - 1. Decrease in total funds of \$52,064.42 from January.
 - 2. \$671,000 in Funds moved from checking to savings to earn a higher interest rate (3.25% vs .15%).
 - 3. Will add an additional \$40,000 to Fund 804 CD in March.
 - 4. Considering additional CD’s in April (3.75% vs 3.25% in savings)
 - a. Fund 205 Fire Department - \$125,000 (new)
 - b. Fund 419 Infrastructure - \$700,000 (new)
 - c. Fund 609 Sewer - \$75,000 (new)
 - d. Fund 801 Fire Department Trust Fund - \$50,000 (additional)
 - e. Fund 803 Economic Development Authority - \$75,000 (new)
 - i. Will monitor account balances prior to moving funds.
 - 5. Auditor performed field work February 23-25. She will present her report to council on May 18.
 - 6. Reviewed the towing contract with Cars on Patrol for performing city towing.
 - a. This discussion has been tabled until the April regular council meeting.
 - 7. Request for Action for Pool Hires
 - a. Request to hire Adeline Plath as Pool Manager at Grade 12 Step 1 \$16.86 per hour effective immediately.

Motion by Councilor Yurek second by none to approve the hire of Avril Kosek as pool manager. Motion failed.

Motion by Councilor Mason second by Councilor Jacobs to approve the hire of Adeline Plath as Pool Manager for 24-28 hours per week effective immediately. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilor Mason second by Councilor Gehring to approve the hire of Adeline Plath as Pool Manager at Grade 12 Step 1 \$16.86 per hour. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- b. Request to retain Avril Kosek as a Head Lifeguard/WSI at Grade 11 Step 4 \$17.24 per hour.

Motion by Councilor Yurek second by Councilor Gehring to approve retaining Avril Kosek as Head Lifeguard/WSI at Grade 11 Step 4 \$17.24 per hour. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- c. Request to retain Becky Dammann as a Head Lifeguard/WSI Grade 11 Step 3 \$16.82 per hour. She was Grade 12 Step 3 \$17.75 as pool manager.

Motion by Councilor Jacobs second by Councilor Mason to approve retaining Becky Dammann as WSI at Grade 11 Step 3 \$16.82 per hour. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- d. Request to retain Caroline Dostal as a Head Lifeguard/WSI at Grade 11 Step 3 \$16.82 per hour.

Motion by Councilor Mason second by Councilor Gehring to approve retaining Caroline Dostal as Head Lifeguard/WSI at Grade 11 Step 3 \$16.82 per hour. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- e. Request to hire Zachary Zajicek as a Lifeguard/WSI at Grade 10 Step 0 \$12.27 per hour.

Motion by Councilor Jacobs second by Councilor Yurek to approve hiring Zachary Zajicek as Lifeguard/WSI at Grade 10 Step 0 \$12.27 per hour. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- f. Request to hire Beau Koktan as a Lifeguard at Grade 10 Step 0 \$12.27 per hour.

Motion by Councilor Gehring second by Councilor Jacobs to approve hiring Beau Koktan as Lifeguard at Grade 10 Step 0 \$12.27 per hour. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- g. Request to hire Cole Plath as a Lifeguard at Grade 10 Step 0 \$12.27 per hour.

Motion by Councilor Gehring second by Councilor Mason to approve hiring Cole Plath as Lifeguard at Grade 10 Step 0 \$12.27 per hour. Vote for: Unanimous. Motion carried.

- 8. Energy Audits were completed on March 3 for the city office auditorium, fire department and public works.
 - a. Reviewed the preliminary report. Items 4 & 5, requesting a rate change, were completed on March 6, 2026.
 - b. The individual reports will be available for the April Quarterly meeting.
- 9. Solar Garden Subscription Update
 - a. 2025 city profit was \$5,519.03
 - b. Program profit from November 2017 through December 2025 is \$40,233.40.

Old Business

- 1. Reviewed Ordinance 100 – Sewer Service Compliance Subd. 7 & 8
 - a. First Reading of proposed amendments Subd. 7
 - i. Item #3
 - 1. Wording clarifications
 - ii. Item #4
 - 1. Include the statement “a copy of the repair estimate must be included with the escrow agreement”.
 - iii. Item #5
 - 1. Addition of clarifying statement “from the date of the inspection”.
 - iv. Item #7
 - 1. Addition of clarifying statement “or fails to complete the corrective action in the timeframe allowed”
 - 2. Additional statement “Any property that is in violation of this ordinance for three months will have their water shut off until all repairs are completed.
 - 3. Discussion was held regarding condemnation of a house due to lack of utilities if the repairs are not made within the three-month timeframe of receiving civil penalties and the water gets shut off. Per the city attorney, declaring the residence uninhabitable will not be included in the ordinance.
 - b. Subd. 8
 - i. Item #6
 - 1. Addition of clarifying statement “from the date of the inspection”.
- 2. Playground Equipment Update
 - a. Pools & Parks Organization has raised the funds for park updates. The city has received donated funds from Sno Pros (\$1000) and Prinsbank (\$2500). Pools & Parks will cover the rest of the costs.
 - b. Quote for \$1100 to do plastic welding on the current slide.

- c. The \$25,000 city funds levied will remain in Fund 405 Parks & Swimming Pool for future projects.
- d. The recommendation is that all equipment is paid for by the city and Pools & Parks will reimburse the city for the costs.

Open Discussion

1. Discussed the city hall remodel. Mayor Bebo met with the building inspector and learned:
 - a. Handicap restroom is good.
 - b. Discussed whether a handicap ramp should go inside the garage stall or outside around the corner of the building. The consensus was that it should be outside due to costs.
2. Discussed mounting the TV in the council room.
3. Councilor Gehring updated the council on the student liaison position.
 - a. Work with the American Government teacher at GSL

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 pm.

Diane E. Pedersen, Clerk/Treasurer

Seal of the City: