Minutes  
Silver Lake City Council  
Regular Meeting  
September 12, 2016

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

Members present: Mayor Bruce Bebo, Councilors Nolan Johnson, Josh Mason, Ken Merrill, and Brenda Fogarty

Others present: Kerry Venier, Clerk/Treasurer; Dale Kosek, Public Works Supervisor; RJ Cripps, Police Chief; John Rodeberg, SEH; Larry Lhotka

*A motion was made by Councilor Johnson seconded by Councilor Fogarty to approve the agenda.  
Vote for: Unanimous  
Motion carried.*

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve minutes of the August 15, 2016 regular meeting.
2. Approve payroll #17,18 & August Amb.
3. Claims to be paid: $ 36,262.07 (9/1/16)  
    $ 22,357.74 (8/15/16)  
    $ 20,352.67 (9/15/16)  
   *A motion by Councilor Fogarty seconded by Councilor Mason to approve the Consent Agenda.  
   Vote for: Unanimous  
   Motion carried.*

Old Business:

1. John Rodeberg, the City’s Engineer presented preliminary results of the Storm Sewer Study. Rodeberg presented an analysis of the current storm sewer system and potential causes of areas prone to back up in heavy rain events and identified some possible solutions to relieve areas known to have standing water. Mr. Larry Lhotka, a resident, addressed the Council and discussed areas of concern that he identified that need attention as well. Councilors discussed designating a committee to review the recommendations of the Engineer report and propose solutions that may be possible. The committee will be appointed at the October 3rd meeting and will likely include the Clerk, PW Supervisor, Councilor and a resident.
2. Councilors reviewed the 2017 preliminary budget and proposed tax levy. Clerk Venier explained that the budget had been adjusted to reflect projected costs for health insurance and the recent wage adjustment. Venier also explained that the department budgets were developed by the department heads. After discussion the Council amended the budget to include an additional $6,000 in expenses for an increase in Police uniforms and increase the amount to be transferred to the squad replacement fund. The General Fund expenses and revenues were set to $765,728 and the Preliminary General Fund Tax Levy was set at $410,994, the Debt Service Tax Levy was set at $69,133 for a total 2017 Preliminary Tax Levy of $480,127.  
   *A motion was made by Councilor Johnson seconded by Councilor Fogarty to approve Resolution 16-18 adopting the 2017 preliminary budget and tax levy.  
   Vote for: Unanimous  
   Motion carried.*

New Business:

1. Reviewed a one day on sale liquor license for Silver Lake Lions for Oct. 28, 2016.  
   *A motion was made by Councilor Johnson seconded by Councilors Fogarty to approve a one-day liquor license for Oct. 28, 2016 for the Silver Lake Lions Club at 320 Main St W.  
   Vote for: Unanimous  
   Motion carried.*

Department Reports:

1. Public Works: Councilor Fogarty reported the following:
   1. Discussed Cleveland St Sanitary Sewer replacement project and reported that flows during last heavy rain event were down which is good news.
   2. In process of doing an early discharge of ponds and working with the MPCA to conduct an early discharge due to the wet weather.
   3. Sewer Main replacement along Hwy 7 has begun with completion anticipated by Sept. 15th.
   4. Staff will begin seeding sidewalks that were replaced this week.
   5. Pool closing and winterizing will begin as well as televising for leak on mushroom feature.
   6. Discussed cleaning up and painting Cleveland St lift station.
2. Community Development: Councilor Mason reviewed the following:
   1. Discussed Resolution 16-17 identifying slum and blight conditions along Main St W. Clerk Venier explained that the resolution is needed to recognize the area as blight for redevelopment purposes and this designation will be needed if the City decides to set up a Tax Increment Financing District to help with the redevelopment.  
      *A motion was made by Councilor Fogarty seconded by Councilor Merrill to approve resolution 16-17 identifying Slum & Blight conditions.  
      Vote for: Councilors Merrill, Johnson, Mason, and Fogarty  
      Abstain: Mayor Bebo.  
      Motion carried.*
   2. Reported the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Sept. 13 for a rezoning application,
3. Administration: Clerk Venier reported the following:
   1. Reviewed a request for increase in Legal Contract service amount from City Attorney.  
      *A motion was made by Councilor Fogarty seconded by Councilor Mason to approve a rate increase to $145 per hour for legal services with Gavin, Winters, LLC (City Attorney).  
      Vote for: Unanimous  
      Motion carried.*
   2. Reviewed Resolution 16-19 approving a Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota. Clerk Venier reported that this agreement is up for renewal and there is no charge to the City, it allows the PD and City Attorney to utilize the Sate of MN data communications for the Courts and BCA.  
      *A motion was made by Councilor Fogarty seconded by Councilor Johnson to approve Resolution 16-19 approving a Joint Powers Agreement with the State of MN.  
      Vote for: Unanimous  
      Motion carried.*
   3. Clerk Venier presented a request from the property owner at 212 Cleveland St SE to have sanitary sewer repairs assessed to his taxes per the City Policy.  
      *A motion was made by Councilor Fogarty seconded by Councilor Mason to assess repairs to the sanitary sewer line at 212 Cleveland St SE to the property taxes per City Policy.  
      Vote for: Unanimous  
      Motion carried.*
   4. Reviewed a recommendation from the Personnel Committee on Health insurance for 2017. The personnel committee recommended accepting the proposal from PEIP for Health Insurance for Full Time staff for 2017 and 2018. The City will pay in accordance with City Policy 90% of the HAS premium and a matching contribution to eligible employee HSA/FSA accounts of $1,000 for single plan and $2,000 for Family Plan employees.  
      *A motion was made by Councilor Fogarty seconded by Councilor Johnson to approve the proposal submitted by PEIP for Health insurance for eligible employees for 2017 & 2018 and the City to pay 90% of the HSA premium and a matching contribution to eligible employee’s HSA/FSA accounts of $1,000 for single plan and $2,000 for family plan.  
      Vote for: Unanimous  
      Abstain: Councilor Mason  
      Motion carried.*
   5. Councilors performed the annual review for Clerk Venier, the meeting was left open per his request, noting on average that he is meeting and exceeding the expectations of the position.  
      *A motion was made by Councilor Johnson seconded by Councilor Fogarty to approve the annual review for Kerry Venier with a 3% longevity increase.  
      Vote for: Unanimous  
      Motion carried.*
4. Liquor Store: Councilor Merrill reported the following:
   1. Profit for September at the MLS was $5,917 and year to date was $36,578; sales for the month were $55,223 and year to date sales are at $366,181.
   2. Updated Councilors on auditorium activities up to this point in the year.
   3. Recommended approval of the following performance reviews, Ashley Ardolf-Mason and Bryan Driver.  
      *A motion was made by Councilor Merrill seconded by Councilor Johnson to approve the annual review for Ashley Ardolf-Mason with a step increase.  
      Vote for: Unanimous  
      Abstain: Councilor Mason  
      Motion carried.  
      A motion was made by Councilor Merrill seconded by Councilor Johnson to approve the annual review for Bryan Driver.  
      Vote for: Unanimous  
      Motion carried.*
5. Public Safety: Councilor Johnson and Chief Cripps reported the following:
   1. Reported on ongoing issues and complaints at the Villager apartment complex. Reposted Notice of Substandard conditions at two of the apartments that were attempting to be lived in.
   2. Reported on 2017 budget needs.
   3. Gave call activity report for the month.
   4. Councilors reviewed 6-month performance appraisal for Chief Cripps, meeting was kept open at the Chief’s request.  
      Councilors noted that the Chief is performing at expected levels at this point in the position.

Open discussion:

* Clerk Venier reviewed an email received from Xcel Energy regarding causes of the recent power outages. Councilors expressed frustration in the response.

*A motion was made by Councilor Fogarty seconded by Councilor Johnson to adjourn this regular meeting of the Silver Lake City Council.  
Vote for: Unanimous  
Motion carried; meeting adjourned at 10:40 PM.*

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* Seal of the City:  
Kerry Venier, Clerk/Treasurer