

**Town of Silver Lake
Council Public Meeting Minutes
Silver Lake Lion's Club
November 5, 2020
7:00pm**

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL:

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Chad Miner, Nichole Taylor, Hugh Murfin (late), Tonya Conley

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Jason McGlennen, Joey McNeal (absent), John Conley (absent), JT Prater (absent)

TOWN ATTORNEY

Dana Leon

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

October 14th Public Hearing, October 14th regular meeting and October 28th budget adoption meeting minutes were approved with Nichole making first motion, Chad seconded and all in favor, motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Hal Hoffman approached the council about making the lease of the farmland behind the fire station for a longer period of time. Hal told the council that the lime needs to be put down but he doesn't want to do that and someone else win the bid the next year after it has been completed. Tonya told the council the IC for leasing of land states that if the council approves the land may be leased for longer than three years. Tonya also told the council that it would have to be advertised again next year showing the years of the lease. Chad said that he felt it was too early to make that decision and Nichole was concerned about what would happen if the town wanted to develop the land. Hal said that a stipulation in the lease agreement could be made that the lime would be paid back prorated after the 3rd year of a five-year lease if the land were to be developed. The term of the lease will be placed on the agenda before advertisement is done in 2021.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

- a) **James leak letter** was discussed due to the nature of how the leak occurred. The council read the ordinance pertaining to leak adjustments and came to the conclusion that although it was not a true leak the circumstance was no fault of the owner. Council agreed to adjust the bill with Nichole making first motion, Chad seconded and all in favor, motion carried.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Resolution 20-01-11 CARES Fund** was passed with Nichole making first motion, Chad seconded and all in favor, motion carried. Establishing this fund will track money received and expended for COVID related items and public safety payroll.

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- b) **KEDCO Contract** for Façade Grant was approved with Nichole making first motion, Chad seconded and all in favor, motion carried. Chad explained prior to voting that the façade grant would help local businesses rehabilitate their structures. The town wants to collaborate with KEDCo on this project because the town cannot directly give funds to businesses. The contract agreement is for \$80,000.00 and a steering committee will be involved with grant requests and the allocation of the funds to them.
- c) **2021 Interlocal Agreement** with Kosciusko County was approved for 2021 with Nichole making first motion, Chad seconded and all in favor, motion carried.
- d) **Ordinance 11-01-20 Water and Sewer Budgets** were adopted with Nichole making first motion, Chad seconded and all in favor, motion carried. Tonya explained that water and sewer funds do not have to be appropriated but passing a budget gives a guide to the superintendents of what can be spent. Tonya told the council with the maintenance and infrastructure of water and sewer being expensive sometimes it will go over but a guide is helpful to stay on track.
- e) **Reserve Donation Fund** was explained by Jason. He said that he would like to use the fund for equipment and uniform expenses for the reserves. The town has received two donations so far this year. Jason also stated that guns will not be purchased with the money. The council agreed that it is a good idea to create a fund for this purpose. Tonya said she would have an ordinance prepared for next meeting.
- f) **Santa Claus** was discussed. Tonya stated with COVID we have to make changes on how we do things. We are unable to have Santa at Station 2 because we cannot maintain social distancing. She asked the council for guidance and a drive thru at the fire station was mentioned. Tonya said she would try to work out details and speak with the council before December.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS/CONCERNS:

Ed Zile told the council that he doesn't think it is right to be charged for sewage when he doesn't have water. His water was turned off due to a leak that was going into Lake City Bank's basement. Tonya told Ed that it is in an ordinance that sewage has to be charged even if water is unavailable due to not being able to turn the sewage off to individual establishments. Ed told her he would not pay the fees. Nichole said that a lien would be placed against the property for unpaid sewage. Ed stated that he didn't care because he didn't own the building. Tonya told the council that they cannot pick and choose who they allow to not pay with it being in an ordinance. Chad agreed and told Ed that rules are rules and with the town not being able to turn it off he is being charged for the availability. Chad also told Ed that he could cap off the sewer and have it inspected and then he wouldn't receive the charges. Tonya said it will have to be glued it just cannot be capped where it could potentially be put back together without the town knowing. After

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much discussion Tonya said the Town would not be able to come to an agreement because he will be charged and he is refusing to pay.

VII. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

a) Jason McGlennen, Marshal Dept.:

- Call history
- Received a complaint about a drop off on Pleasant St. and the ditch. He said it could potentially cause issues if a car were to get off the road to much. The council told him to speak with Joey and JT about placing dirt to level it out some.
- Jason reported that he called the State Highway about doing something about the grade on 950 S. and SR 15. He told the State Highway that there have been a lot of accidents because of the hill and the lack of being able to see other vehicles coming south on that stretch. The State Highway said they would do a traffic study there before paving next year. Jason mentioned that he had emailed a County Commissioner about this issue and did not receive a response so he took the matter into his own hands even though it is a county issue and not the town.

b) Joey McNeal, Water Dept.:

- Joey was absent but Tonya told the council that he would be painting hydrants Monday and Tuesday if the weather is nice.

c) JT Prater, Street & Sewer Dept.:

- Absent no reporting.

d) John Conley, Fire Dept.:

- John was also absent but gave a report to Tonya of 7 runs since last meeting, mandatory class finished and 3 new firefighters gained their certification and invited the Council to the FD Christmas dinner on December 3rd at 6:30pm. All council stated they would attend.

VIII. CLAIM DOCKET:

\$116760.07 in **claims** were paid. Nichole made first motion to approve, Hugh seconded and Chad all in favor, motion carried.

IX. LETTERS:

X. MISCELLANEOUS:

- a) **Next regular meeting** is scheduled for December 9, 2020 at the Silver Lake Town Hall beginning at 7:00pm.

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XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Adjournment came at **7:48** pm with Nichole making first motion, Hugh seconded and Chad all in favor, motion carried.

CHAD MINER, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

TONYA CONLEY, CLERK-TREASURER