

CITY OF SILVERTON
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Zoom Web Conference Platform

July 20, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

I. OPENING CEREMONIES – Call to Order & Roll Call

Mayor Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. City Council and staff were present through the virtual meeting platform Zoom. Mayor Palmer explained this meeting is being held through Zoom due to Governor Brown’s Executive Order 20-16 and House Bill 4212.

Present	Absent	
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Mayor Kyle Palmer
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Council President Jason Freilinger
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Jim Sears
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Matt Plummer
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Dana Smith
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Laurie Carter
<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Crystal Neideigh

Staff Present:

City Manager, Christy Wurster; Chief of Police, Jim Anglemier; Petra Schuetz; Assistant to the City Manager/HR Coordinator, Elizabeth Gray; and Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk, Angela Speier

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – None submitted

III. OATHS OF OFFICE/PUBLIC RECOGNITION – None scheduled

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Emily Fern Dayton, 208 Mill Street. Ms. Fern Dayton explained she has been volunteering with the Grassroots Law Project which has been talking about divesting funds from police departments and reinvesting those funds into community and social service support programs. She has also been attending the People of Color Caucus and was wondering if the Silverton Police Department keeps a Brady List of officers and if the department follows officer’s social media accounts to ensure there are no officers promoting white supremacy. She asked if a policy could be created allowing discipline of an officer if they were to be engaged in racist activities. She also requested the department look into trauma informed training.

Mayor Palmer said two pieces of written public comment was received from Laura Snodgrass and Emily Fern Dayton and is included as attachment 1 to the minutes.

V. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS – None scheduled

VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None scheduled

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Carter made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of item 7.1. Councilor Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously (7-0).

7.1 System Development Charges Credit for Pioneer Phase V Subdivision

VIII. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Police Use of Force, Policies, Reporting and Training Guidelines

Chief of Police Jim Anglemier provided an overview of the Silverton Police Department's policies and training. He reviewed a list of ten concerns he has received from the public regarding what they think the police department should do. Those include: 1) ban chokeholds and neck restraints in all cases; 2) require officers to deescalate situations when possible; 3) require officers to give verbal warnings before shooting; 4) require officers to exhaust all other alternatives including non-force and less lethal force options prior to resorting to deadly force; 5) ban shooting at moving vehicles; 6) require officers to intervene and stop the use of excessive force by another officer; 7) establish a use of force continuum; 8) require officers to report each time they use force or threaten to use force against civilians; 9) have all officers wear video cameras; and 10) do not use any military or riot control equipment. He said of the ten concerns the Silverton Police Department currently complies with all except one, which is the use of force continuum, because it has not been used for years. He said in 2009 the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) eliminated the use of force continuum. He described several police reform bills passed during the recent Special Legislative Session and are now in effect.

Chief Anglemier said the Silverton Police Policy and Procedure Manual contains 150 policies and is updated on a continual basis in coordination with Lexipol, LLC. He explained Silverton is currently recognized as an accredited law enforcement agency by the Oregon Accreditation Alliance. In order to attain this recognition, 104 standards of policy and performance must be documented and demonstrated every three years. He reviewed the department's use of force policy and how it complies with the recently passed legislation. Silverton Police do not authorize and are not trained in the use of chokeholds. He said the policy will be updated to align with the state regulation allowing the use of chokeholds only in a deadly situation. He reviewed the current duty to intercede policy. He explained the department does not have riot gear or tear gas devices and they do not have specific training in these situations. The officers are trained in deescalation and communication skills in hopes of gaining voluntary compliance with the minimum amount of force necessary. He explained the documentation required when use of force is necessary and how deadly use of force is investigated. Councilor Smith asked if the required intervening of other officers only applies if there is a physical use of force or would inappropriate verbal communication also be reported. Chief Anglemier said it applies to anything that would violate Silverton Police Department policies, conduct, and ethical standards.

Chief Anglemier said officers and sergeants have been wearing body cameras for over two years. He reviewed when they are turned on, downloaded onto the server and used for writing reports. He reviewed the officer's training schedule and reported they receive over 100 hours of training per year. Silverton exceeds the annual required training for its officers. The department will also be setting up an online training program through Caliber Press that will be available to officer's on a 24/7 basis and will cover over 30 training topics. This will help supplement the department's normal in-service training. The training program is continually evaluated and adjusted to address best practices.

Councilor Smith asked if Community Policing Standards are the same everywhere or if they vary in each community. Chief Anglemier said each community takes a general statement and molds/adapts it for their community. He said it is an ongoing living type of philosophy with input and goals developed with members of the community.

Councilor Carter voiced her support for police departments and stressed their importance in communities. She asked about the defund police movement and if Chief Anglemier thinks police departments are being asked to do too much. She explained this movement would like to shift funds from the police department to social service agencies that could intervene in a less forceful way. Chief Anglemier said officers will still

be needed to respond in most situations, but will also work with agencies to get individuals the assistance they need. Councilor Carter said there has been criticism of Student Resource Officers (SROs) regarding labeling and tracking certain kids. Chief Anglemier said that is not the case in Silverton and congratulated Officer Shawn Aljets for being selected as the next SRO. The last SRO was an integral part of the school administration and has helped provide wrap around support for students who are having problems in order to get them what they need to succeed. Councilor Carter asked if kinetic energy devices include rubber bullets. Chief Anglemier explained Silverton does not use rubber bullets, but does have guidelines related to less lethal bean bag rounds which can help to deescalate a situation quickly.

Councilor Plummer thanked Chief Anglemier for his presentation and said the department is heading in the right direction in regards to transparency. As people gain an understanding of police training and policies they will gain a better appreciation for what police officers do. He feels like, at times, there is too much protection for police officers making bad decisions. He would like to ensure there is accountability when poor decisions are made. He would like to see the SRO model applied to the greater community in regards to resources available and how those agencies can work hand in hand with the officers. He also discussed the need to ensure an officer's own wellbeing is met, because in some cases of poor decisions it was due to an internal struggle of some type. Chief Anglemier said he has spent his entire career promoting the health and wellbeing of officers and explained his role on the Trauma Team in Salem.

Councilor Freilinger thanked the Chief for the presentation and he feels more confident and comfortable with the state of the department. He likes the idea of creating a commission to review the training and culture of the Silverton Police Department. He requested to see some of the trainings. He would also like more information on the structure of the accountability model and how this looks in regards to the negotiations with the police union. Chief Anglemier said he will make sure Council is informed on their training schedule. He would like to develop a Citizen's Police Academy and encouraged Councilor Freilinger to do a ride-a-long with a police officer.

Councilor Carter would like to see more of a police presence in downtown.

Councilor Sears said he appreciated the detailed presentation and overview of the training regimen for officers. He is impressed with the Chief Anglemier's attitude and willingness to try something new. He encouraged Councilors to do a ride-a-long, because it gives the participant a different perspective on how officers interact with the public and promote education over writing tickets in a kind and respectful way.

Mayor Palmer thanked Chief Anglemier for the presentation and said he has a lot of faith in the department. He said it is important to show how the Silverton Police Department is out in front of the things happening across the country. In closing, Councilor Plummer said the actions after this meeting and providing full transparency regarding trainings will be important moving forward.

8.2 Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) process

Public Works Director Petra Schuetz said pursuing the feasibility of an ASR is budgeted for this fiscal year and is included in the City Council goals. The application is due in October and the staff report provides an overview of this type of system. It is identified in the Water Master Plan as an alternative storage system. She explained there is a 50 percent match requirement for the feasibility grant and the funding source through the Oregon Water Resources Department could be potentially impacted by COVID-19. The City is reaching out to potential partners in order to make the application more competitive. These partners include Mt. Angel, watershed councils and state agencies. Monthly updates on the progress of the application will be provided in the monthly Public Works Report.

Councilor Smith said there were other entities involved in the previous discussion. Director Schuetz said she would like to start the conversation with Mt. Angel prior to reaching out to other entities to ensure their interest in the project. Scott Walker explained Mt. Angel and the Marion County Water and Soil Conservation District committed to providing financial support last time this was discussed. There was also support from the State Representative, State Senator and the Pudding River Watershed Council. He said the City has been under resourced in terms of water storage since the 2006 Water Master Plan. The

Silver Falls Fire District would like additional water storage in the West Hills for redundancy in water storage. The proposal should include evaluating the geology of the west side of the City for water storage.

Councilor Freilinger is supportive of moving forward with a project. Councilor Plummer said conceptually this sounds great, but realistically he does not know if it is feasible and is concerned about the cost. He has heard concerns about the City injecting water and farmers using the water. He has read about communities injecting treated wastewater and asked if that is a possibility. Mr. Walker said if the ASR could be established in the West Hills it would be further away from the farm community. He said Mt. Angel is in a water restricted zone, so it is critical to have them involved in the application. Councilor Sears said he was disappointed this project did not move forward last time and is excited to move forward with the feasibility grant. There are number of communities in Oregon that use this type of storage successfully. Councilor Carter reviewed some of the previous issues with the project and why the grant application did not move forward.

8.3 City Emergency Management Overview

Public Works Director Schuetz reviewed the staff report and described the various emergency plans and services the City uses. During the COVID-19 pandemic the City has utilized the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) and will be performing a review of the experience. She reviewed how residents can sign up to receive emergency notifications. All the City emergency plans are reviewed on an annual basis and updated accordingly.

Councilor Plummer asked if there have been emergency drills performed at the local level to walk through an emergency scenario. Director Schuetz explained the City participated in a table top drill related to Cascadia in 2017 and will strive to perform emergency exercises on an annual basis. She explained the pandemic has allowed for a real life exercise. Councilor Plummer stressed the need for Silverton to be as self-reliant as possible during an emergency. He would also like to see the City promote and encourage Silverton residents and businesses to participate in the Great American Shakeout event. Director Schuetz said the City could do better with public outreach and encouraging families to be self-sufficient. She explained how Map Your Neighborhood helps with outreach and neighborhood planning.

City Manager Wurster explained the Public Work Department has prepared a CONEX box full of safety materials and supplies that can be used during a local emergency. She said to-go-bags were also prepared for the members of the emergency management team. The City has discussed ways to broaden the participation in the Great American Shakeout event during the downtown business meetings. She said Silverton is in great shape for a City its size and thanked Representative Lewis for his work on getting Silverton prepared.

Mayor Palmer said he has been impressed with how staff has handled the COVID-19 emergency and the calming thoughtful leadership provided.

Councilor Sears is glad to hear the City is ahead of the curve. He explained his experience being the Emergency Management Director with Marion County and the challenges in obtaining resources when needed from the various agencies during an emergency.

IX. CITY MANAGER UPDATE

City Manager Wurster provided a reminder on the elections deadline.

X. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Plummer would like to see the City extend an offer to the School District to let them know we are here to help and support with the reopening of schools. Mayor Palmer has been in communication with the new superintendent and has discussed how the two entities can deepen their connection.

Councilor Carter thanked Chief Anglemier for his presentation and encouraged everyone to stay safe.

Councilor Freilinger thanked Chief Anglemier and Public Works Director Schuetz for their presentations. He hopes the School District is aware the City Council is here to help if they need it.

Councilor Sears asked about the McClaine Street Improvement Project and said there is a graphic showing a ten foot road width and verified it should be 11 feet. He explained the City Council had a number of discussions about this project and was hoping to create some green spaces and/or islands and was wondering if those suggestions were incorporated into the plans. Director Schuetz said she will follow up with the City Engineer and let Councilor Sears know the outcome of his discussions with the contractor. Councilor Sears said he is concerned about the turning radius at the corner of Main and McClaine Streets. He also asked if it would be possible to use thermal plastic for the demarcation of the bike lane. He is concerned about the type of curb used, because the gutter will take away usable space and there will be a seam between the gutter and asphalt. He was hoping City Council would be supportive of a change order to remove the gutter pan. Councilor Smith would like to see the plans for the McClaine Street design. Director Schuetz said the contractors and engineers have been discussing the questions posed by Councilor Sears. The bid was favorable so there might be some room to make minor adjustments. Councilor Sears said he wanted to go on record with his concerns and feels these changes will be safer for cyclists. Since it was a favorable bid he would like to see any money left over to be used toward the project on Second Street.

Councilor Neideigh thanked Chief Anglemier for his presentation. She encouraged everyone to stay healthy and wear their masks.

Councilor Smith asked staff to share some drawings of possible Civic Center site plans from the project manager. After the last meeting there was concern about losing park space. She feels the discussion is coming down to parks versus parking versus trees. The City Council reviewed the four site options and discussed the number of parking spaces needed on site for staff and the public. The first option maintains the current trees and includes 28 secure parking spaces. Site plan option 1a removes the trees and expands the secured parking to 42 spaces. Site plan option 2 maintains the trees with 28 secure spaces, but increases the parking on Festival Street. Site plan option 3 increases the secured parking but causes the green space to be reduced by 24 percent. Councilor Sears presented the idea of vacating A Street to allow for additional parking. Councilor Freilinger asked why we need secured staff parking and voiced his support for option 2 and is not interested in vacating A Street or expanding into the lot north of A Street. Discussion ensued about the four options and the size of Festival Street. If the Festival Street includes two rows of parking it would accommodate for the Farmer's Market and other types of events to be held there. Councilor Carter said 70 percent of survey respondents support retaining all the trees on the site and if more parking is needed the lot north of A Street should be utilized for that purpose. City Council discussed the cost of the frontage improvements that would be needed on A Street if that lot were to be developed for parking. Councilor Smith reviewed a number of issues with vacating A Street. City Council would like to narrow the site plan options to option 1a and option 2, those will be placed on the August 3 City Council agenda for further discussion.

Mayor Palmer provided an update on the weekly resource meetings and how that group is transitioning into a brainstorming body to guide the community out of the vitriol that has been spreading on social media. Social media is causing a lot of divide in the community right now due to the loss of events and in-person gatherings. The discussion has been focused on a campaign throughout social media that encourages people to stop and think before they speak and to plan smaller neighborhood events to bring people together. He said the first event will take place on the second Friday of August and will be similar to a National Night Out event. They will be asking people to bring their dinner outside in their front yard and talk to their neighborhoods across the street. Then after dinner people are encouraged to take a stroll through their neighborhood. Children will be asked to participate in a sidewalk chalk program. This will also build a foundation for neighborhood resource sharing and revitalizing the Map Your Neighborhood Program. He explained apartment complexes can participate and they are working with entities that provide meals to homeless individuals. He said the group is creating a Facebook page called Strong Silverton. Councilor Plummer suggested having a sidewalk chalk art contest and encouraged someone to take a lot of photos.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Carter made a motion to adjourn and Mayor Palmer adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/Angela Speier, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk