



# CITY OF SILVERTON

SUMMER 2024

## Mayor's Corner

I hope everyone is having a fantastic summer! It's been wonderful seeing so many people out and about, soaking up the sunshine and enjoying the season.



Mayor Jason Freilinger

The 2024 Kiwanis Pet Parade was an absolute delight with perfect weather and a massive turnout. It was heartwarming to witness the children's excitement as they eagerly awaited candy, cheered for fire trucks, and marveled at the array of animals passing by. This year, a whimsical touch was added with bubbles drifting down from a balcony, creating a magical moment on the Main Street bridge.

Katie and I had a delightful time serving up delectable strawberry shortcakes amidst a backdrop of lively music at the Strawberry Festival; I heard it was the biggest festival yet.

The City of Silverton celebrated the grand opening of its new City Hall and Police Department, a milestone event that I was honored to MC. The festivities included contributions from the American Legion, the Silverton Children's Choir, the Boy Scouts, the Oregon National Guard, and the Historical Society. Former mayors Rick Lewis and Kyle Palmer, alongside Colonel Helzer of the Oregon National Guard, shared inspiring words with the audience. Over 250 community members joined us for this historic occasion, and after the ceremony and ribbon cutting, everyone had the chance to explore the new building. It was special to see so many people in the community come together for this historic event. City staff are currently busy organizing and preparing for the move to the new City Hall. We're eagerly looking forward to convening our first Council Meeting in the new facility on July 15.

The All-Abilities Park has been bustling with joyous activity since its opening, with

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Silverton's new City Hall and Police Department facility on the former Eugene Field campus.

## New City Hall Opens for Service

The new City Hall building, located at 410 N. Water St. will be open to the public July 15, 2024. The Police Department will be open the following day on July 16, 2024. There are still a few remaining items to close out, but the project is essentially finished. Notable features of the new facility include:

**Artists Light** – The lights above the staircase in the Main Lobby were fabricated and designed by a local team of artists and craftsmen. Ann Altman, David Cotter, and Rod Wanker created the three light fixtures.

**City Council Dais** – The Council dais was built from the wood of the Douglas Fir tree that used to stand next to the Sequoia but had to be felled after the Ice Storm. Oregon Corrections took the timber and kiln dried and milled the wood and constructed the dais and installed it onsite.

**Wood Accents** – The wood accent panels behind the Council dais and the second-floor lobby bench were milled by Oregon Corrections from the wood of the Eugene Field School Play / Basketball Court structure that was previously along N. First Street. The wood was from the large vertical posts that supported the structure.

**Council Chambers** – The Council Chambers are 50% larger than the current Council Chambers and have newer technology that will allow easy and seamless broadcast of meetings via Zoom.

**Modern Police Facility** – The Police Department is designed to meet current standards for a modern police facility.

**Resilience** – The building has a number of resilient features including being seismically secure. The large diagonal beams that are sometimes visible are anchored into massive concrete foundation footings to provide stability.

The building is elevated out of the dam inundation zone, so in the unlikely event of the dam breaching, the building will be above the flood level. All of the building can be operated entirely on the backup generator, which is run on natural gas, and is also above the dam inundation flood level.

The building will house the City's Emergency Operations Center with built-in workstations and virtual meeting capabilities. The space will function as a large meeting and training room most of the time.

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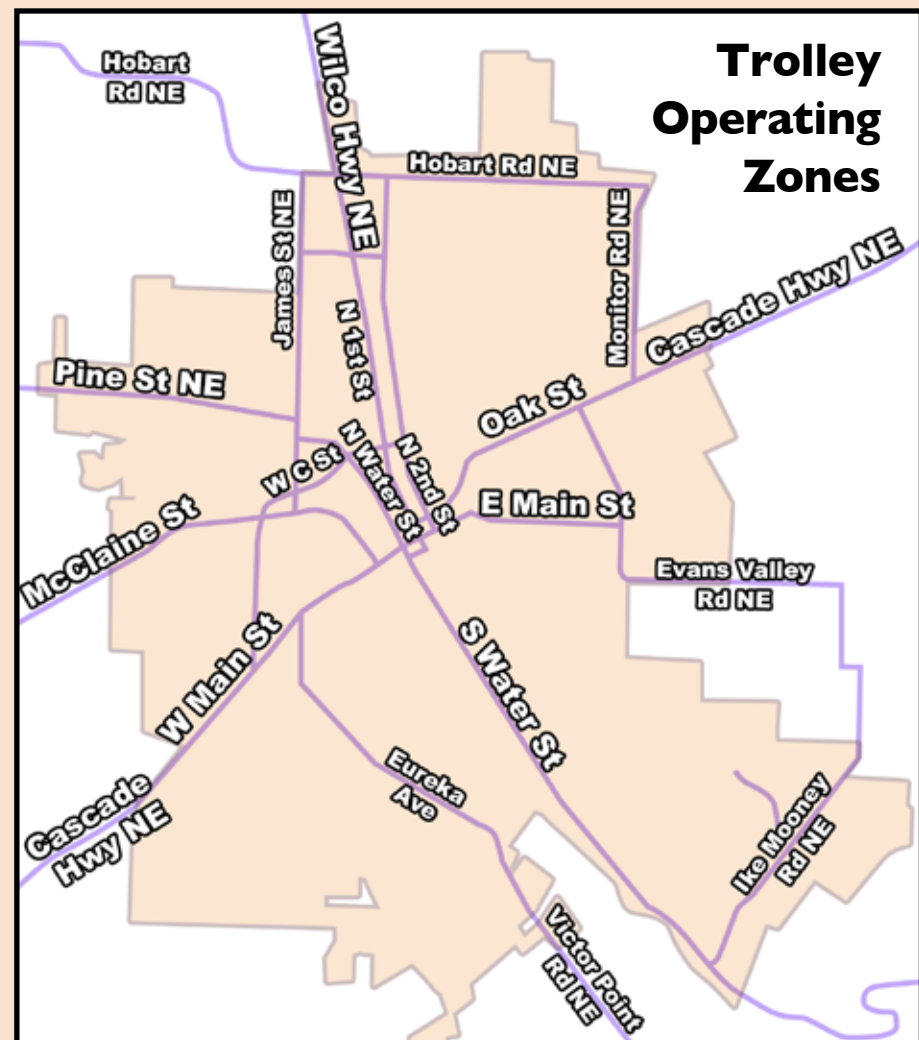


## Silver Trolley Transit Service update

The Silver Trolley transit service is updating their operating software. Early this fall, residents will have the opportunity to book transit via an app on their phone; call-in ride scheduling will still be available. The Silver Trolley is managed and operated by the Community Development Department and provides transportation to the public within the Silverton city limits and urban growth boundary.



Vehicles are equipped with ADA equipment to accommodate the needs of Silverton’s diverse community. The Silver Trolley is a not-for-profit service, funded by Federal and State grants as well as City funds. Individuals are not required to pay for this service; however, donations are greatly appreciated. Operating hours are Monday through Friday; 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. & 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.



## 2024-2025 Budget Adopted

The budget process began in January 2024 with staff developing revenue estimates and cost projections to maintain current services at the existing levels and to fund other projects based on Council Goals, Capital Improvement Plans, and citizen requests. Revenue projections are based on information from other governmental agencies, prior year actual data, and by estimating changes within the community.

Once staff completed their calculations for revenue projections and requests to cover the costs of services, the information was provided to the City Manager. The City Manager reviews the requests before the Preliminary Budget is prepared and made available to the Budget Committee and citizens. After approval of the budget by the Budget Committee, the information is presented to the City Council who adopted the budget, levied the taxes, and approved the appropriation authority.

The City of Silverton adopted the budget for fiscal year 2024-2025, which begins July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, at the June 17, 2024, Council Meeting. The total budget is \$74,918,392. The budget includes funding for additional positions in the Public Works, Police, and an increase in staff hours for Finance. Silverton is proud of its healthy financial position and the ability to continue to address the infrastructure needs of the community. The last fiscal year saw the completion of the Second Street Improvement Project. This year includes work on several parks-related projects, the design of the Main Street Downtown Improvement Project, engineering of a water storage tank and the roof for the decant facility located at the City Shop to name a few of the projects.

The City has also received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 2023-2024 fiscal year’s budget and will be submitting the recently adopted Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget for review.

The budget document is located on the City of Silverton website: [www.silverton.or.us](http://www.silverton.or.us).

### Free Parking Pilot Program

The City of Silverton launched a parking pilot program on Memorial Day weekend of 2024. The program is designated for the downtown commercial area of Silverton and offers four-hour free parking for residents and visitors alike. The pilot program will remain for 120 days for proper data collection and conclude in mid-September. The City Council will review the success of the pilot program in the autumn of 2024 and determine forthcoming procedures at that time.





# From the Desk of the Chief: Updates & Announcements

As the newly appointed Chief of Police for the Silverton Police Department, I am immensely proud to highlight the safety and security of our beloved town. Silverton is already known for its tight-knit community and picturesque landscapes, and our commitment to safety and security is unwavering. Through proactive measures, community engagement, and a steadfast dedication to the well-being of our residents, we work tirelessly to ensure Silverton remains a place where everyone feels secure and protected.

I am thrilled to announce the well-deserved promotions of two outstanding members of our department. Mark Gaither, a resident of Silverton, has been promoted to Captain, and Peter Finnegan has been promoted to Sergeant. Their dedication to law enforcement and our city has been exemplary. I have the utmost faith and trust in their abilities, and I am confident they will serve our community with distinction and honor in their new roles.

I am also pleased to announce that Officer Shawn Aljets has been selected for another four-year term as our School Resource Officer



Captain Mark Gaither, Chief Todd Engstrom, and Sergeant Peter Finnegan.

(SRO). Officer Aljets has made a significant impact within the Silver Falls School District, fostering positive relationships with students and staff alike. Her dedication to the safety and well-being of our students is commendable, and her presence has been a source of reassurance for parents and educators. We are confident that her continued service will further strengthen the bond between the police department and the community, promoting a safe and supportive environment for our young people.

As the new Chief of Police, I am excited about the opportunity

to lead this dedicated team. Silverton is a special place, and I am committed to ensuring that our police department upholds the highest standards of safety and community service. With the support of our residents, we can enhance our collective safety and



Officer Shawn Aljets and the SHS Fox.

continue building on the strong foundation we have in place. I look forward to working closely with the community to keep Silverton one of the safest and most welcoming cities in Oregon.

**Todd Engstrom, Chief of Police**



**SILVERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**FOUND PROPERTY**  
**HAVE YOU LOST OR MISPLACED ITEMS IN SILVERTON?**

*THE POLICE DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE THEM!*

The following items are examples of Found Property turned in to the Silverton Police Department

Bike | Wallet | Cell Phone | Backpack | Purse/Bag  
 Clothing | Knife | Glasses | Keys | Camera | Watch  
 Electronics | Jewelry | Sports Equipment

TO CLAIM AN ITEM:  
 CONTACT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

You will be required to provide specific identifying information and/or proof that the item is yours. If not claimed within the next 30 days, these items will be destroyed.

503-874-2224

@CityofSilvertonOregon  
www.silverton.or.us

Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

## Pettit Park Design & Pickleball Courts

The anticipation for a Pettit Park design and construction of Pickleball courts on Westfield Street began in 2023 with the update of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The City Council approved City staff to strive for grant funding in March 2024. Both projects are currently in the conceptual design phase with the company NV5 and design efforts should be complete by the end of the 2024 calendar year. The City should know by Winter 2024 if the grant request was successful.

## Silverton City Council



Mayor  
**Jason Freilinger**

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Council President  
**Elvi Cuellar Sutton**

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Council Member  
**April Newton**

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Council Member  
**Marie Traeger**

[mtraeger@silverton.or.us](mailto:mtraeger@silverton.or.us)



# Mayor from Page 1



The All-Abilities Playground in Old Mill Park.

children enthusiastically exploring its features. Kevin McCarty and I recently hung swings, and it was heartening to see families seamlessly transitioning between the park and the nearby pool. Amidst this lively scene, a Tai Chi group gracefully practiced their moves, while many parents relaxed with books (possibly borrowed from the neighboring Silver Falls Library). This was a beautiful sight to see people of all ages coming together at Old Mill Park.

Mark your calendars for Casino Royale on Friday, July 19, from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at 11506 Kaufman Rd NE. I will be a dealer for Texas Hold'em. All proceeds benefit Silverton Area

Seniors Inc. Come out and have a great time for a great cause!

As we look ahead, the Homer Davenport Community Festival is just around the corner, coinciding with my birthday weekend, from August 2 – 4. For me, 'Homer Days' have always been intertwined with birthday celebrations, and this year I am looking forward to walking in the Homer Parade and then going to the Davenport Races the next day. I can't wait to see familiar faces and meet new friends during this festive community gathering.

Sincerely,

**Jason Freiling**  
Mayor of Silverton

## CITY CALENDAR

### July

**Joint City Council Meeting & Planning Commission Special Meeting**

Monday, July 15  
6:30 p.m.

**City Council Regular Meeting**

Monday, July 15  
7:30 p.m.

### August

**Joint City Council & Fire District Special Meeting**

Monday, Aug. 5,  
6:30 p.m.

**City Council Regular Meeting**

Monday, Aug. 5  
7:30 p.m.

**City Council Work Session & Regular Meeting**

Monday, Aug. 19  
6:30 p.m.

### September

**City Council Work Session & Regular Meeting**

Monday, Sept. 9  
6:30 p.m.

**City Council Work Session & Regular Meeting**

Monday, Sept. 23  
6:30 p.m.

### All meetings held at the new City Hall Council Chambers, 410 N. Water St.

Attention, Silverton residents! Upcoming agenda items are subject to change and meetings are subject to rescheduling or visit [www.silverton.or.us](http://www.silverton.or.us) for the latest information and remote participation options.

## CITY HALL continued from page 1

**Energy Efficiency** – The building has a large solar array on the rooftop and other energy-efficient design elements such as the light shelves, the horizontal panels extending into the building at the windows, which reflect the sunlight into the building space, and the building has light sensors that will dim the light fixture depending on how much sunlight is being

reflected into the room.

**Local Materials** – All the boulders in the landscaping area were taken from the Hospital as they were excavating for their new addition. The roof is Mass Plywood Panel (MPP) from Freres Lumber, a 100-year-old family-owned business out of Lyons, Oregon.



## Senior Center Closure & Project Update

In January of 2024, the beloved Senior Center at 115 Westfield St. experienced extensive damage due to the freezing of the sprinkler system. The City of Silverton staff have headed a project to restore the building to its original form. In May 2024, the City Council approved the City of Silverton entering a contract with Buildskape, LLC out of Beaverton. They have taken on the reconstruction project and the expected completion date is Sept. 1, 2024.

### Silverton City Hall

410 N. Water St. | 503-873-5321 | [www.silverton.or.us](http://www.silverton.or.us)  
Business Hours: Mon-Thur 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Fri 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

#### City Manager Cory Misley

503-874-2205 | [cmisley@silverton.or.us](mailto:cmisley@silverton.or.us)

#### Deputy City Manager/ Finance Director

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#### Public Works Director

**Travis Sperle**

503-874-2210

[tsperle@silverton.or.us](mailto:tsperle@silverton.or.us)

#### Deputy City Recorder & Communications Coordinator

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#### Community Development Director

**Jason Gottgetreu**

503-874-2212

[jgottgetreu@silverton.or.us](mailto:jgottgetreu@silverton.or.us)

#### Police Chief

**Todd Engstrom**

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[tengstrom@silverton.or.us](mailto:tengstrom@silverton.or.us)

### Stay Informed

Did you know that you can receive email notifications from the city regarding anything from City Council and Committee updates to Public Works News?

Visit: <https://silverton.or.us/newsletter/subscriptions>