



TOWN OF SILVER CITY

Regular Meeting

May 26, 2026, 6:00 PM

Grant County Administration Center, 1400 Hwy. 180 E.,
Silver City, NM

MISSION STATEMENT of the TOWN OF SILVER CITY

Silver City is the hub of an inclusive community settled within a small town that through guided growth, honors and preserves its historical, cultural, and natural heritage while facilitating jobs, health, and educational resources such that the residents and visitors may enjoy and protect the recreational opportunities of the area and high quality of life.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND SALUTE TO THE NEW MEXICO STATE FLAG**
- 2. CHANGES TO AGENDA**
- 3. CEREMONIES**
- 4. PROCLAMATIONS**
 - A. "Silver City Area's Poet Laureate" -
- 5. COUNCIL COMMENTS**
- 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- 7. PUBLIC INPUT**
- 8. REPORTS**
 - A.
 - A. **Manager's Report**
 -
 - B.
 - A. **Police Chief**
 -
- 9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A.
 - A. Museum Community Advisory Group
 -
- B.
 - A. Planning and Zoning
 -
- C.
 - A. Economic Development and Research Committee
 -

10. PUBLIC HEARING

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval / Disapproval of RESOLUTION 2026-18: A RESOLUTION TO FORM A REUSE AND RECYCLE COMMITTEE FOR THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2026-13 -
- B. Mayors' appointment to the Reuse and Recycle Committee. -

13. ADJOURNMENT

Council Members

<u>Name</u>	<u>Elected Position</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Term of Office</u>
Simon Wheaton-Smith	Mayor	575-313-3990	01/2026 - 12/2030
Angela M. Salaiz	Councilor, District 1	575-654-0415	01/2026 - 12/2027
Nicholas H. Prince	Councilor, District 2	575-654-0087	01/2026 - 12/2030
Stan Snider	Councilor, District 3	575-342-2535	01/2024 - 12/2027
Victor Nãnez	Councilor, District 4	575-654-0148	01/2026 - 12/2030

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY

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The Council may call an EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-

1(H) for the following reasons:

1. meetings pertaining to **issuance, suspension, renewal or revocation of a license**, except that a hearing at which evidence is offered or rebutted shall be open;
2. **limited personnel matters** which means the discussion of hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment or resignation of or the investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against any individual public employee;
3. meetings for the **discussion of bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining negotiations** between the policymaking body and a bargaining unit representing the employees of that policymaking body and collective bargaining sessions at which the policymaking body and the representatives of the collective bargaining unit are present;
4. that portion of meetings at which a decision concerning **purchases in an amount exceeding \$2,500 that can be made only from one source** and that portion of meetings at which the **contents of competitive sealed proposals solicited pursuant to the Procurement Code (13-1-28 NMSA 1978) are discussed during the contract negotiation process**. The actual approval of purchase of the item or final action regarding the selection of a contractor shall be made in an open meeting;
5. meetings subject to the **attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation** in which the public body is or may become a participant;
6. meetings for the **discussion of the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights** by the public body.

Note: NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1(H) Exceptions (4) relating to students, (9) relating to public hospitals, and (10) relating to the gaming control board were not listed above since they do not apply to the Town of Silver City.

For information on what's happening in local government, please visit the [Town's website \(www.townofsilvercity.org\)](http://www.townofsilvercity.org).



Town of Silver City, NM

Item #4.A

Item Report

Meeting Date: May 26, 2026

Item: "Silver City Area's Poet Laureate"

Attachments:

1. proc - Poet Laureate--Christina Nealson 5-26-26

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Town of Silver City is incorporated to provide public services and opportunities for cultural enrichment to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Town's effectiveness in the provision of these services and opportunities is often dependent upon the independent vision and efforts of the local citizenry; and

WHEREAS, the steering committee for the Southwest Festival (SWWF), with the endorsement of the Town of Silver City's Mayor and Town Council, has initiated and completed a search for the Silver City area's next official Poet Laureate; and

WHEREAS, that search has been completed, resulting in the selection of an excellent candidate to hold the honorary post of Silver City Poet Laureate;

*NOW, THEREFORE, on behalf of the Silver City Town Council, I, Simon Wheaton-Smith, Mayor of the Town of Silver City, Grant County, New Mexico, hereby formally acknowledge, endorse, and proclaim **Christina Nealson** as the "Silver City Area's Poet Laureate" for 2026-2028.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this official seal of the Town of Silver City to be affixed this 26th day of May 2026.

(Seal)

Ken Ladner, Mayor

Attest:

Alfred Sedillo, Town Clerk



**Town of Silver City,
NM**

Item #8.A

Item Report

Meeting Date: May 26, 2026

Item:

A. Manager's Report

Attachments:

None



**Town of Silver City,
NM**

Item #8.B

Item Report

Meeting Date: May 26, 2026

Item:

A. Police Chief

Attachments:

1. SCPD Downtown Activity Report-April 2026



SILVER CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 997 • 1011 HUDSON
SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO 88062

(575) 538-3723
FAX (575) 538-3726



April 2026

SCPD Downtown Activity Report

Frequent Patrols – 75
Downtown Foot Patrols – 9
Big Ditch Foot Patrols – 6
Citizen Contacts – 5
Traffic Stops – 9
Traffic Citations – 2
Arrests – 1

Calls for Service – 43

Alarm – 2
Criminal Trespass – 2
Unwanted Subject – 4
Citizen Assist – 5
Medical – 4
Hit & Run – 1
Animal – 2
Civil Matter – 1
Open Door – 3
Welfare Check – 2
Vehicle Crash No Injuries – 1
Abandoned 911 – 1
Fire Alarm – 1
Suspicious Person – 7
Reckless Driver – 1
Found Property – 1
Fire/Smoke – 1
Noise complaint – 4
Odor complaint – 0

Citations Noise Complaints – 0
Citations Odor – 0

Note: All activity is documented through Grant County Regional Dispatch Authority and inputted into our Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD).



**Town of Silver City,
NM**

Item #9.A

Item Report

Meeting Date: May 26, 2026

Item:

A. Museum Community Advisory Group

Attachments:

1. Silver City Municipal Museum Advisory Group Meeting Summary Report May 18 2026

Silver City Museum Advisory Group Meeting May 18, 2026 Summary Report for Mayor Wheaton-Smith

The meeting opened with welcomes and introductions led by Colleen Jiron, Ph.D., Secretary, who distributed informational packets about the Municipal Museum Community Advisory Group, Museum organization, and the meeting agenda. Members introduced themselves, and the March 24, 2025 meeting minutes were approved.

Advisory Group Purpose and Officer Elections

Colleen reviewed the Advisory Group's ordinance, mission, and operational guidelines. During officer elections, audience members raised questions about the Museum Society's role and voting eligibility amid ongoing disputes with the Town. Officials clarified that voting procedures followed existing rules and that negotiations between the Society and Town were ongoing. Scott Zager was elected Chair, George Carr Vice Chair, and Colleen Jiron remained Secretary through November 2026.

Museum Programs and Activities

With Museum Director Bart Roselli on leave, Tom Oberg presented updates on exhibits and educational initiatives. Current projects include:

- The recently opened WILL exhibits
- School outreach and curriculum development
- Upcoming Lunch & Learn programs
- Planning for the July 4th celebration
- Development of future exhibits including *Silver City 101* and a Mining District exhibit

Tom emphasized the Museum's focus on multicultural history, community participation, and public engagement. Staff hope to involve broader regional communities and volunteers in future exhibits and oral history projects.

Discussion of Museum Society and Director Issues

Raul Turrieta discussed the Museum Society's long history of fundraising and support for the Museum but noted tensions surrounding budget disputes and restricted access to the Museum. Multiple speakers expressed hope for reconciliation and renewed collaboration between the Society, Museum staff, and Town government.

Scott Zager repeatedly reminded attendees that the Advisory Group's role is limited and that ongoing legal disputes are outside the group's authority. Mayor Wheaton-Smith emphasized moving forward positively and improving transparency, communication, and budgeting practices.

Volunteers and Accessibility

Museum staff encouraged volunteer participation and noted the Town is searching for a Volunteer Coordinator/Admin position. Discussion also highlighted accessibility improvements for visitors with disabilities, including efforts to improve access to upstairs exhibits.

Governance and Meeting Procedures

The group discussed whether to formally adopt Robert's Rules or continue operating under Small Group Rules. Members agreed to revisit governance procedures at a future meeting. Questions also arose regarding public access to agendas, meeting minutes, and Museum budgets. Officials explained that approved minutes are sent to the Town Clerk for posting and that public records requests may be submitted for financial information.

Public Questions and Concerns

Audience members raised concerns about:

- The Museum Society and Director dispute
- Museum budgeting and financial transparency
- Coordination among volunteers and fundraising groups
- Grant administration
- Accessibility and inclusion for veterans and disabled individuals

Advisory Group members and Town officials generally stated that litigation-related matters were beyond the scope of the group but acknowledged the need for better communication and collaboration moving forward.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for:

- Monday, August 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
- Location: Museum Annex

Agenda preparation deadlines and procedures for submitting agenda items were also established.



**Town of Silver City,
NM**

Item #9.B

Item Report

Meeting Date: May 26, 2026

Item:

A. Planning and Zoning

Attachments:

None



**Town of Silver City,
NM**

Item #9.C

Item Report

Meeting Date: May 26, 2026

Item:

A. Economic Development and Research Committee

Attachments:

None



**Town of Silver City,
NM**

Item #12.A

Item Report

Meeting Date: May 26, 2026

Item: Approval / Disapproval of RESOLUTION 2026-18: A RESOLUTION TO FORM A REUSE AND RECYCLE COMMITTEE FOR THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2026-13

Attachments:

1. Res 2026-18 Amending Resolution 2026-13

RESOLUTION 2026-18

A RESOLUTION TO FORM A REUSE AND RECYCLE COMMITTEE FOR THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2026-13

Whereas, there are limited resources available on the earth;

Whereas, there is limited space in the Southwest Solid Waste Authority Landfill;

Whereas, reuse and recycling saves resources and prolongs the existing life of the landfill; and

Whereas, a Reuse and Recycle Committee could focus, evaluate, and develop programs to reuse and recycle waste within the Town of Silver City;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by The Town of Silver City:

1. That the Town of Silver City shall form a committee called the Reuse and Recycle Committee to make recommendations to the Governing Body;
2. That the Committee shall have seven members appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council;
3. That the mayor shall appoint one Town Councilor as a non-voting ex-officio representative;
4. That the Committee member terms shall be staggered, four members shall be appointed for two year terms, and the remaining three members shall be appointed for one year terms, thereafter, all appointments shall be for two year terms, a vacancy in the membership of the Committee shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term, three (3) members of the Committee may reside outside of town limits;
5. That a member whose term has expired may be re-appointed, or may continue until a replacement has been appointed;
6. That the committee shall meet at least once per month, to develop, then as appropriate, recommend to the Governing Body, the initiation, and operation of various Reuse and Recycle Programs;
7. That the Committee shall elect its chair, vice chair and secretary from among its members for a term of one year with eligibility for re-election; and

8. That members of the Committee shall be required to attend more than 75 percent of all regular meetings held during each year of a member's term. Failure to attend any three of 12 meetings shall be considered a resignation and that member shall be replaced.
9. The Committee may not encumber any Town resource, nor may the Committee ask any Town Employee for assistance except by means of a request to the Town Manager.
10. The Committee shall abide by the Open Meetings Act, Inspection of Public Records Act, the Town's Code of Conduct, and any other statutes, ordinances, or policies.
11. This Resolution will supersede Resolution 2026-13.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the Town of Silver City, Grant County, New Mexico, on this 26th day of May 2026.

(Seal)

TOWN OF SILVER CITY

Simon Wheaton-Smith, Mayor

Attest:

Alfred Sedillo, Town Clerk



**Town of Silver City,
NM**

Item #12.B

Item Report

Meeting Date: May 26, 2026

Item: Mayors' appointment to the Reuse and Recycle Committee.

Attachments:

None