

**TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**



February 3, 2015

**Public Meeting Advertised for 7:00 PM
Conducted at the Cedar Lake Town Hall
Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence**

Roll Call:

Present	Robert H. Carnahan Council Member	Ward 1	Present	Patsy Casassa Council Member	Ward 6
Present	John Foreman Council Member	Ward 2	Present	Randell Niemeyer Council Member	Ward 5
Present	Julie Rivera Council Member	Ward 3	Present	Amy J. Gross, IAMC, MMC, CPM Clerk-Treasurer	
Present	Ralph Miller Council Member	Ward 4	Present	Jill Murr, CPM, IAMC, MMC Town Administrator	
Present	Greg Parker Council Member	Ward 7	Present	David Austgen Town Attorney	

PRESENTATION

Presentation by Sue Crisman of The Arc of Northwest Indiana postponed until March.

Police Chief Jerry Smith introduced Officer Phil Lewis who presented the Junior Hero Award to Kelly Bloomer for an emergency occurring in December.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes: January 20, 2015 Public Meeting

Claims:	All Town Funds	\$105,253.85	Wastewater	\$49,491.32
	Waterworks	\$38,827.04	Storm Water	\$5,879.04
	Payroll #122, 123	\$147,145.46		

Other: Annual Utility Adjustments \$22,739.62 (per Town Code 51.29)

Tag Days:	Cedar Lake Chamber of Commerce	Tag Day	Rain Day
		N/A	Jul 18

Greg Parker moved to accept and waive the reading of the Minutes, and to accept the Consent Agenda. Second was made by Ralph Miller. Roll call vote:

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

NEW BUSINESS

1. Cedar Lake Chamber of Commerce Business Showcase

John Foreman chaired the previous two years for this event. The banner needs to be updated with the new logo. He would be interested in representing the Town this year. Cost is \$50 for a member of the Chamber, and if electricity and chairs are needed, it would be \$70. Motion made by Greg Parker to participate with John Foreman as Chairman. Second was made by Julie Rivera. Roll call vote:

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

2. Walk for Williams Syndrome Association – May 30, 2015

Town Administrator received a request from a resident to host this event on the town grounds. Her grandchild has the illness and she raised funds previously to assist the association. She provided insurance information already. John Foreman moved to approve the event contingent upon review of insurance and legal requirements, and to waive the fees. Second was made by Patsy Casassa. Roll call vote:

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

3. Safe Routes to Schools Parcel – Special Item

The Safe Routes to Schools project from 133rd and Parrish east is close to construction phase due to the final parcel being acquired through the court system. The property appraisal was for \$3,100 and there are two invoices for \$1,000 to each appraiser. Motion made by John Foreman to disburse the funds as described. Greg Parker made the second. Roll call vote:

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Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

WORK SESSION:

1. Interlocal Cooperation Agreement – Shared Ethics Advisory Commission

This item was presented by Cal Bellamy at a previous meeting. A motion is needed to create a resolution if we participate. Robert Carnahan moved to approve the drafting of this document. Second was made by Patsy Casassa. Greg Parker questioned what advantage would this be in participating. President Niemeyer explained there is training to staff so they would be comfortable reporting and documenting ethical issues in the workplace. Mr. Parker was suspicious due to Lake County politics thinking they may be involved in this venture. It was confirmed by Attorney Austgen that Lake County is not a member. The agreement has an annual fee of \$800, and there is an opt-out clause. Roll call vote was taken.

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

2. NICK Foundation Event February 28, 2015

President Niemeyer wanted to discuss the participation in the event. There are group and individual opportunities to participate. Discussion ensued that being this is Town government; we will have other organizations soliciting for donations. It was agreed this was a valuable event to help children with cancer. Some Council Members may attend or make a donation independently. Council Member Parker was reluctant to use taxpayer funds to donate, but would like to attend on his own. Mr. Niemeyer agreed.

3. Road Striping

Discussion ensued regarding the solicitation of vendors to paint the roadway lines for safety and traffic direction. Attorney Austgen recommended an RFP (Request for Proposals). The Town Administrator was directed through motion made by Mr. Carnahan to work on the RFP procedure. Patsy Casassa made the second. Roll call vote:

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

4. Road Maintenance/Paving Projects with CEDIT Funds

President Niemeyer discussed that a list was established back in 2008 regarding a comprehensive determination of roadways requiring major reconstruction including drainage. Beyond this list is a group of roads that may not require complete reconstruction. The CEDIT funds could be utilized for this purpose. Major road reconstruction would require bonding, but other roads could be paved and have some drainage improvement. The engineer and staff could go out on field to examine the conditions and prepare a list. He requested direction for a committee to be formed to work on this matter. Clerk-Treasurer Gross stated that about \$205,000 was collected last year. They would need to determine the projects and cost first. Robert Carnahan, Greg Parker and John Foreman volunteered to work on the project. Motion made by Greg Parker to accept the committee members as listed. Second was made by Ralph Miller. Roll call vote:

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

John Foreman brought up the ordinance he discussed with Clerk-Treasurer Gross to use CEDIT funds for the Ecosystem Restoration project. Mrs. Gross said that a draft was forwarded to the Town Attorney for review. Mr. Foreman would like to see a percentage placed in a fund for the lake. He would like to allocate 20% of the CEDIT funds. He believes this will show an effort and a commitment to restoring the lake and ecosystem. Clerk-Treasurer added that the annual projection for 2015 is about \$208,000 to be received in CEDIT. More discussion occurred regarding percentages and allocation. Greg Parker felt the Town has made quite an investment already in the dredging project. The land purchase was a large investment to be used for the dredging material. This land has been setting for a while, but Engineer Kay Whitlock believes the Town should hold the land for the materials to be deposited. Ralph Miller added that when members of Council met recently with the Army Corps, they were pleased to know that the land was already purchased. Mr. Carnahan added at some point it could be used for a park. Mr. Parker understood, but reiterated that there has been a large investment made already in the lake dredging and wants to see the CEDIT funds go towards the roads. Robert Carnahan agreed. Mr. Foreman said let's get the

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ordinance in front of the council and we could continue with the discussion. There are many good points to be made. Mr. Miller asked about the rent money for the farming. Clerk-Treasurer Gross said that there was direction given to place the rent money in the General Fund. Mr. Miller had a suggestion about using some of this money for dredging. The rent is currently \$16,500. Perhaps direction could be given to use some CEDIT and rent money towards the Ecosystem Restoration. Parker concluded that if we had great roads and were really close to the dredging and had the commitment from the Army Corps, we could use CEDIT funds. However, the roads are an important matter needing attention. These funds could be used at some time for bonding potential on a larger scale road project. The committee will meet soon with staff and the engineer to work on the inventory list for roads.

5. Bartlett-Wahlberg Park

John Foreman wanted to see this item on the Plan Commission agenda. Mr. Niemeyer felt that GenMove should be involved. Mr. Foreman did not believe the council was the correct body; the channel should be through the Plan Commission. Patsy Casassa suggested three council members meeting with GenMove first. Motion was then made by Greg Parker with second by Patsy Casassa to allow the Town Administrator to contact GenMove in order to begin the process. Roll call vote was taken. Mr. Foreman vote no.

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	No	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cedar Lake Parks Foundation – Patsy Casassa reported that there is an architect who did a rendering of the proposed band shell. They need some direction due to the fact that consent is needed with a retainer or fee. The foundation does not have the funding at this time to undertake, engage or retain the architect. The property is that of the Town so it would be appropriate to underwrite the project. Crown Point Community Foundation (CPCF) is currently engaged in this project as well. Ms. Casassa would contact Attorney Austgen for drafting an agreement. Fundraising is forthcoming and there is an endowment with CPCF.

Cedar Lake Historical Association – Park Committee met with CLHA. The old museum lease is deficient for today’s vision. The association has ideas for using the building, and it was decided to review every 10 years for adequacy. There could be events held in the building. Discussion ensued with the group about funding, building code, insurance, etc. The suggestions would be forwarded to Attorney Austgen to be used for drafting a revised lease.

Utility Committee – Superintendent was to check into other vendors for maintaining the water tower. Mr. Schaller was not available this evening for a report.

TOWN COUNCIL AND STAFF REPORTS

Discussion among Council occurred regarding the agenda format. It was determined for transparency that the agenda should be amended for discussion of a topic not listed and a motion would occur. President Niemeyer confirmed from here forward the agenda would be amended by motion with second for new items. Patsy Casassa would like to see each item on the agenda as how it relates to the strategic plan.

Robert Carnahan asked about an item discussed at the Storm Water Board relating to use of certain material. Attorney Austgen said that an amendment is forthcoming.

Clerk-Treasurer Gross stated that the Department of local Government Finance provided the 1782 Notice to the Town. This is the pre-approval of the budget for 2015 with rates and levies. Deadline to respond is February 12. Currently, there would be a reduction in the General Fund of about \$500,000 and \$162,000 from Cumulative Capital Development. Mrs. Gross is reviewing the revenue stream as estimates are generally conservative for planning the budget. The building department revenues have increased and so has the EMS collections. She is working on this to get the budget increased favorably for the departments.

Town Administrator Jill Murr reported that there will be a meeting with designers at Mixdesign to plan on the unveiling of the new website anticipated for this month.

Police Chief Jerry Smith presented a letter to the Council from the Police Commission. The Commission is requesting approval to transfer ownership of a used 2006 Ford Crown Victoria to the Hanover Community School Corp. They also request a stipulation that if not used for its intended purpose, or not accepted, the vehicle would go to the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy as training credits. Mr. Carnahan asked about the academy credits. There is enough for more training at this time. The school would use the car for the school resource officer, traffic control and safety. Mr. Carnahan added that they need to look into Crown Point and Lowell schools. Mr. Foreman disagreed as this school is in the Town. MacArthur is the only school in the Town from the Crown Point schools. We could help them also at some point. Chief Smith explained that Crown Point Community School Corp. has a director of security with a vehicle and a school resource officer (SRO) at the high school. They also employ off-duty police officers for sporting events and the like. Lowell is doing the same thing. Hanover has a squad car there when one of our officers is present, but when the buses start to transport students, this car would be an

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added safety measure. Mr. Carnahan said he has no problem with that. Mr. Parker added that Crown Point had a well-funded marketing campaign to increase their revenue by referendum in order to provide those amenities. School Board Member Dennis Wilkening was present to speak. This car was his project as he wanted to increase police presence at the schools, and for the SRO to travel between schools. They have not set a policy yet, because they don't have the car. The vehicle would not be taken home. Motion made by Greg Parker with second by Ralph Miller to amend the agenda for this subject. Roll call vote was taken.

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

Agenda is amended for consideration of transferring ownership to the Hanover Community School Corp. as recommended favorably by the Police Commission 5 to 0. John Foreman moved to approve the donation with second by Greg Parker. Roll call vote:

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

Chief Smith asked the Council if the department could proceed with securing bids for new police vehicles. Requests would be presented to Dodge, Ford and Chevy. The February meeting of the Police Commission would have the information to make their recommendation. Consideration of the budget would be included upon Clerk-Treasurer's approval. Robert Carnahan moved to amend the agenda. Second was made by John Foreman. Roll call vote:

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

Motion made by Robert Carnahan to proceed with obtaining quotes for police vehicles. Second was made by John Foreman. Roll call vote:

Carnahan, Ward 1	Yes	Parker, Ward 7	Yes
Foreman, Ward 2	Yes	Casassa, VP, Ward 6	Yes
Rivera, Ward 3	Yes	Niemeyer, Pres., Ward 5	Yes
Miller, Ward 4	Yes		

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

1. GenMove Monthly Report for January 2015 provided to Town Council for review.
2. Hanover Community School Corp. – Liaison Appointment
Dennis Wilkening appointed by School Board.
3. INDOT Project Correspondence from Town of St. John
State Representative Mike Aylesworth is working on this matter for the region to extend a turn lane from Schererville to Cedar Lake along US 41.
4. Christopher B. Burke Engineering Report – provided to Town Council for review.

PUBLIC COMMENT None

Next meeting February 17, 2015 at 7:00 PM. Public hearing for the US 41 Corridor Annexation will be held at the Hanover High School Auditorium on April 7, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT: At approximately 8:35 PM President Niemeyer called the meeting to adjournment.

An Executive Session was advertised and conducted before the Public Meeting at 6:00 PM pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b). Refer to Memorandum of Meeting for topics discussed and those in attendance.

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COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

Randell Niemeyer, President, Ward 5

Patsy Casassa, Vice President, Ward 6

Robert H. Carnahan, Ward 1

John Foreman, Ward 2

Julie Rivera, Ward 3

Ralph Miller, Ward 4

ATTEST:

Greg Parker, Ward 7

Amy J. Gross, IAMC, MMC, CPM
Clerk-Treasurer

The Minutes of the Cedar Lake Town Council are transcribed pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-4(b), which states:

- (b) As the meeting progresses, the following *memoranda* shall be kept:
- (1) The date, time and place of the meeting.
 - (2) The members of the governing body recorded as either present or absent.
 - (3) The general substance of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided.
 - (4) A record of all votes taken, by individual members if there is a roll call.
 - (5) Any additional information required under IC 5-1.5-2-2.5.