



Town of Cedar Lake Board of Safety Special Public Meeting Minutes Monday, July 18, 2022 at 4:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Kaper called the meeting to order at 4:54 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

Present	Joshua Govert, Member	Present	William Fisher, Police Chief
Present	James Olthoff, Member	Absent	Todd Wilkening, Fire Chief
Present	David Villalobos, Member	Absent	Carl Brittingham, Deputy Chief Police
Present	Norman Stick, Vice Chairman	Absent	Nick Mager, Deputy Chief Fire
Present	Lester Kaper, Chairman	Absent	Ralph Miller, Town Council Liaison
		Absent	David Austgen, Town Attorney

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kaper called for Public Comment three times; none received.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

1. **Personnel:** Chief Fisher stated Officer Jarrett Stickle has submitted his resignation letter noting July 16, 2022 as his last date. He stated he has approximately 30 days left on his contract that should be decided on whether or not to pursue and \$3100 in PTO time owed once completed. A motion was made by David Villalobos, seconded by Norm Stick, to accept his resignation as long as he is in compliance with the contract. Roll Call vote: Govert – Yes, Olthoff – Yes, Villalobos – Yes, Stick – Yes, Kaper – Yes. Vote: 5-0.

Chief Fisher stated the Board had the opportunity to review the candidate that was recommended to hire. He asked that the Board afford him the opportunity to get the process started to pending any additional information that was request to hire Alexander Powell. A motion was made by Norm Stick, seconded by Josh Govert, to hire Alexander Powell with the above noted contingency. Fisher confirmed to Villalobos that they would attempt to attain previous personnel records from the previous three law enforcement agencies. Roll Call vote: Govert – Yes, Olthoff – Yes, Villalobos – Yes, Stick – Yes, Kaper – Yes. Vote: 5-0.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

1. **Personnel:** Kaper asked the Board to consider the resignation of Anthony Van Auken. A motion was made by David Villalobos, seconded by Jim Olthoff, to accept his resignation as long as he is in compliance with the contract. Roll call vote: Govert – Yes, Olthoff – Yes, Villalobos – Yes, Stick – Yes, Kaper – Yes. Vote: 5-0.

Kaper asked for a motion to advertise for Emergency Hire for position of Firefighter/Paramedic. A motion was made by Norm Stick, seconded by Josh Govert to advertise for the Emergency Hire for Firefighter/Paramedic. Villalobos questioned the letter from Chief Wilkening noting an opening for position of Firefighter/EMT and wanted to know if they were doing that as well or just the previously noted paramedic. The question was also addressed that there were part-time and full-time positions requested being posted by the Chief. The Board wanted to know if they should be approving for all of the positions or just the vacancy they approved the resignation on.

Kaper read the resignation letter for Van Auken to the Board, noting his last date of employment as August 7, 2022. Chief Fisher stated Chief Wilkening texted him during the meeting requesting the ability to advertise for all of the positions. An amended motion was made by Norm Stick, seconded by Josh Govert to advertise for the Emergency Hire for Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedic, Part-Time Paramedic and Part-Time EMT. Roll Call vote: Govert – Yes, Olthoff – Yes, Villalobos – Yes, Stick – Yes, Kaper – Yes. Vote: 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kaper called for Public Comment three times. Councilman Robert Carnahan stated he understood Officer Stickle was leaving Cedar Lake to go to St. John and asked what kind of pay increase would he receive. Chief Fisher stated the pay increase was \$20,000. Carnahan stated the Firefighter was going to South Bend. Norm Stick stated the Firefighters goal was being able to work for a larger fire department. Kaper stated the new Officer coming from Whiting would have an increase in his salary by coming to Cedar Lake.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Josh Govert, seconded by David Villalobos, to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote resulted in all in favor of adjournment. Kaper called the meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.

TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE BOARD OF SAFETY

Lester Kaper, Chairman

Norman Stick, Vice-Chairman

Joshua Govert, Member

James Olthoff, Member

David Villalobos, Member

ATTEST:

Sarah Moore, Recording Secretary