

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



February 18, 2020

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	Colleen Schieben Council Member	Ward 6
Present	John Foreman Council Member	Ward 2	Present	Richard Sharpe Council Member	Ward 7
Absent	Julie Rivera Council Member	Ward 3	Present	Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMC Clerk-Treasurer	
Present	Ralph Miller Council Member	Ward 4	Present	Jill Murr, CPM, IAMC, MMC Town Administrator	
Present	Randell Niemeyer Council Member	Ward 5	Present	David Austgen Town Attorney	

**CENSUS PRESENTATION**

Council Member Carnahan introduced a short video on the census. He stated posters are available to the local businesses. He discussed other advertising efforts to spread the word on the 2020 Census.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Chief Fisher introduced Addison Brown and her parents, Dan and Stacy Brown. Addison started an organization called Miles of Many Smiles. She provides local Police Department's with Smile Bags. The bags are for officers to have in their vehicles when called to a situation involving children. The bags contain various items such as toys, books, coloring items, Kleenex, and a handwritten note from herself or her sister. Currently, she has provided bags to ten departments and was recently contacted by two others. The Council congratulated Addison on her efforts.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** (*on agenda items*) - None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1. Minutes:** February 4, 2020
- 2. Claims:** All Town Funds: \$193,835.60; Wastewater Operating: \$108,613.64; Water Utility: \$31,535.09; Storm Water: \$24,636.37; and Payroll: February 6, 2020 \$237,971.94
- 3. Manual Journal Entries:** January 1-31, 2020
- 4. Clubhouse Use & Fee Waiver:** Keenagers (6/16, 7/21, 8/17)
- 5. Use of Town Hall:** State Board of Elections (May 5, 2020 5am to 6pm)

A motion to accept and waive the reading of Minutes and accept the consent agenda was made by Richard Sharpe with second by John Foreman. Roll call vote: Carnahan – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Sharpe – Yes, Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

**BZA**

- 1. Special Use Variance: Lawrence Turnquist/Joe Kocjan – 10501 W. 133<sup>rd</sup> Avenue**  
Town Attorney Austgen stated the petitioner owns a very successful business in Town and is looking to expand. It is EnviroFab and located in the Industrial Park. The Board of Zoning Appeals unanimously certified a favorable recommendation. Mr. Carnahan agreed with Mr. Austgen. The business is growing and needs more space.

A motion to approve the Special Use Variance was made by John Foreman with second by Robert Carnahan. Roll call vote: Carnahan – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Sharpe – Yes, Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Tourism Fund Request**  
President Niemeyer stated the Town receives \$4,725 annual in tourism funds. Three requests were received from Cedar Lake Summerfest, Cedar Lake Historical Association, and the Cedar Lake Farmers Market. Mr. Carnahan called for a motion to defer based on a question of whether for profit entities versus non-profit are permitted to receive funds.

A motion to defer was made by Robert Carnahan with second by Ralph Miller. Mr. Foreman asked if they would consider making it contingent on the outcome of status. Mr. Miller didn't agree. He thinks it would be better to know what they have and how they can disburse it. Roll call vote: Carnahan – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Sharpe – Yes, Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

**TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA  
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**REPORTS**

1. Town Council - Street Committee – The Committee met a few weeks ago to discuss what they can do now for some of the streets that have been discussed in recent meetings. Mr. Oliphant is compiling a priority list of streets. They should have that for distribution by the next meeting. President Niemeyer asked the Committee to invite in Mr. Eckert from Jane Ball and the engineer to look at what small project they might do together.

President Niemeyer stated himself, Mr. Sharpe, and Mr. Austgen met with officials from Hanover School Corporation to talk about their expansion proposals pending the results of the referendum in May. It was a productive meeting. The Town presented the ordinance of the graduated building permit scale based on size of project. It was well received. Mr. Foreman stated he met with the Cedar Lake Enhancement Association. They are working on getting an old steamship to come for the summer. He heard on Sunday that the Yacht Club will house the boat. Mr. Miller stated he met with the captain and they discussed the different depths of the lake. They are planning on having lunches onboard. Mr. Carnahan stated the Chamber will have their luncheon the 27<sup>th</sup> at Great Oaks. It's \$15 per person.

2. Town Attorney - He is working on the Strategic Objective assignments previously discussed. Periodic updates will be given.
3. Clerk-Treasurer – Ms. Sandberg stated her office is finishing the Annual Financial Report required by State Board of Accounts as well as other annual reporting. She will be following up with the financial consultants on the various projects.
4. Town Administrator/Staff – Ms. Murr stated she will be attending the next 16 Plus meeting for the Community Development Block Grant Funds. It will be February 28<sup>th</sup> at Schererville. This is to make sure we keep receiving the funds. She is also working on coordinating the various strategic meetings.
5. Police Department – Chief Fisher stated he will have the year-end report for the next meeting.
6. Fire Department – No report.

**WRITTEN COMMUNICATION**

1. Building Department Report – In January there were 7 new home permits with a value of approximately \$1.1 million. There were 31 alteration permits with a value of \$454,000.
2. Dr. Terry McDermott – Mr. Foreman stated that Mr. McDermott first went to the Plan Commission. Mr. Carnahan stated he is trying to get an alleyway turned over to the Town. It's been an alleyway for many, many years. Ingress only was discussed for the alleyway. Mr. Toth stated they were exploring the two parcels that belong to Cedar Lake Ventures, LLC. They are small parcels and they are considered about right of way access. Discussion continued on potentially acquiring the parcels. The Town Attorney and Town Administrator were directed to reach out to the parcel owners.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lucy Griffin, 13704 Birch, stated her street is a mess. She has been filling the holes with concrete herself. She asked when the road would get fixed. Mr. Foreman stated in a few weeks he will have a better answer. The committee is working on an updated street list. She voiced concerns with Lauerman Street as well. She voiced concerns with the roundabout being too narrow. Mr. Carnahan stated it still has work to be done and it will accommodate larger vehicles. Ms. Griffin continued to voice concerns. Mr. Kubiak stated he followed a 53 foot semi through the roundabout. President Niemeyer stated the space to work with was small. Ms. Griffin continued to voice concerns.

Mr. Foreman asked if they could check the degrees on the ingress and egress of the old restaurant by the roundabout. Mr. Kubiak stated they have that information from American Structurepoint. Multiple conversations overlapped.

**ADJOURNMENT** Council President Niemeyer called the meeting to adjournment at approximately 7:45 PM.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Randell Niemeyer, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Julie Rivera, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert H. Carnahan

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Foreman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ralph Miller

\_\_\_\_\_  
Colleen Schieben

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard Sharpe

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMC  
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.