

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



July 7, 2020

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

In an effort to maintain transparency and accessibility while keeping accordance with the Governor’s Executive Orders relating to COVID-19, the Town Council meeting limited in person attendance but the live broadcast was streamed and can be viewed at <https://cedarlakein.org/view-town-meetings/>. Questions and comments were accepted electronically and instructions can be found on the Public Meeting Agenda, a copy of which can be found at <https://cedarlakein.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/07.07.20-Town-Council-Agenda-Supplemental-Packet.pdf>

Mr. Forman followed up on the moment of silence, thanking Corporal Keith Wood for his service to the community, offering prayers and best wishes to his family during this difficult time.

Roll Call:

Present*	Robert H. Carnahan Council Member	Ward 1	Absent	Colleen Schieben Council Member	Ward 6
Present*	John Foreman Council Member	Ward 2	Present	Richard Sharpe Council Member	Ward 7
Present	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	

** Council members Carnahan and Foreman participated remotely.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Toth, 9725 W 129th Place, voiced concerns on the Fire Department Reimbursement Fee schedule. Most insurance companies have a \$500.00 cap for covering these fees, some do not pay at all and some states ban the fees. According to the ordinance, citizens that suffer a loss and do not have insurance are responsible for all fees billed by the Fire Department; unpaid invoices are subject to liens and liable for legal fees. Mr. Toth asked if the owner or renter is responsible for fees that could be in excess of \$10,000. He understands there’s an ever growing need for funding. He suggested capping the fees at \$500. Mr. Toth asked the Council to vote no on the ordinance.

Pete Blagojevic, 13232 Lake Shore Dr., voiced concerns on Ordinance No. 1352. He suggested finding other ways to increase funds. Tax payer money is used to support the fire department. There is a lot of money on the list. Mr. Blagojevic asked who is responsible if a neighbor calls the Fire Department because of a bonfire. Mr. Niemeyer discussed the fire department being underfunded. Public Safety in general is grossly underfunded. They tried to establish a fire territory. It failed. Mr. Niemeyer stated our firefighters are the lowest paid in the county. Mr. Austgen commented the property causing the issue would be responsible. A lengthy discussion followed on the tax rate and current budget for the Fire Department. Mr. Blagojevich asked about the estimated revenue from the proposed fees. Chief Wilkening discussed surrounding communities’ revenue from the same type of billing and insurance companies’ payments. A lengthy discussion continued on fire billing, insurance caps, and clarifying the language of the ordinance.

Jerry Reiling, 14100 Rocklin, asked if the Fire Department currently collects \$500.00 from insurance companies. Chief Wilkening stated no. Mr. Niemeyer stated no because there is no fee schedule in place. He estimated the EMS medical billing brings in approximately \$250,000 a year. Without that there would be no EMS service. Mr. Reiling stated he understood and agreed with billing \$500.00 but not anything above that amount.

Mr. Niemeyer read a written comment from **Diane Jostes**, Cedar Lake Chamber Executive Director, in regards to the proposed fire billing ordinance. She stated several chamber members were concerned about the fees and had questions. A copy can be found at the end of the minutes.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes: June 16, 2020
2. Claims: All Town Funds: \$272,197.71; Wastewater Operating: \$317,036.74; Water Utility: \$62,623.34; Storm Water: \$162,518.06; and Payroll: June 25 & July 1 - \$197,881.80
3. Donations: Kubal’s Holiday, Inc. - \$500 to CLPD to purchase vehicle lockout tool kits

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Mr. Carnahan questioned claims for the Kubota, asking if there are ongoing problems. Mr. Kubiak explained the claims were for routine maintenance to keep the Kubota in good working order and to maintain appearance. Mr. Carnahan asked if the Town was still paying Schererville on what is owed for the PSAP service. Clerk-Treasurer Sandberg replied we are in year two of a three year back bill payment schedule. Mr. Carnahan asked about a negative claim (\$666.66) for attorney Austgen. Mrs. Sandberg replied it was a credit for a previous claim where the professional discount was not applied before payment was made.

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

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

1. Ordinance No. 1352 – Emergency Response Billing

Mrs. Rivera read by title only. Mr. Austgen recommended deferral for further review based upon comments heard this evening. It's a home rule and needs clean-up. Mr. Foreman suggested deferring to work on the fee structure and take into account residents vs. non-resident fees. Mr. Austgen suggested the division of fee allocation between resident and non-resident may have a discriminatory component.

A motion to defer was made by John Foreman with second by Ralph Miller. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – No, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 5 – 1.

2. Ordinance No. 1355 – Emergency Response Reimbursement Repealer Ordinance

Mrs. Rivera read by title only. Mr. Niemeyer asked if this was tied to Ordinance No. 1352. Mr. Austgen stated no and explained this ordinance is to clean up the Town Code provision that was established in an enabling ordinance in 1996. It pertained to the former volunteer fire company.

A motion to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance No. 1355 was made by Ralph Miller with second by Richard Sharpe. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – No, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 5 - 1.

3. Ordinance No. 1356 – Papiese – 8029 Lake Shore Drive - Rezone from R-M to R-2

Mrs. Rivera read by title only. Owners and petitioners, Richard and Karen Papiese, received a favorable recommendation for approval of rezoning from R-M (Residential Multiple Family) to R-2 (Residential). Mr. Austgen stated this is a zone change that accompanies a one lot subdivision. Mr. Carnahan asked the difference between this item and an item further on the agenda under Plan. Mrs. Murr stated the agenda was updated and the second item was removed from the agenda. A brief discussion continued.

A motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1356 was made by John Foreman with second by Robert Carnahan. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

4. Resolution No. 1259 – Temporary Loan 2017 RDA A B C Bond

Mrs. Rivera read by title only. Mrs. Sandberg explained the property tax settlement was received but insufficient to meet debt service obligations. \$188,346.90 will be transferred from the WWTP Special fund #633 to the 2017 RDA A, B, & C Bond Fund #412. The loan will be repaid before December 31, 2020.

A motion to approve was made by Julie Rivera with second by Ralph Miller. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

5. Resolution No. 1260 – Confirming Resolution Appropriation Transfers

Mrs. Rivera read by title only. Mrs. Sandberg stated the transfer total of \$6,650.00 from within the General Fund, specifically \$3,500.00 within the Town Council budget and \$3,150.00 within the Fire Department budget was necessary to meet operating expenditures.

A motion to approve was made by Richard Sharpe with second by Julie Rivera. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

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PLAN

1. Letter of Credit: Birchwood Farms Subdivision

Mrs. Murr stated this is the letter of credit for Phase I of Birchwood Farms Subdivision. It was approved by the Plan Commission, checked off by the Town attorney, engineer and staff. It is in an amount \$565,070.19. It is recommended they approve.

A motion to approve was made by Robert Carnahan with second by Ralph Miller. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fireworks Usage & Special Permit Application – July 18, 2020

Ms. Murr explained the fireworks usage permit application from Mission One, involving the Corner Store and the American Legion for the Veterans of Valor event at the American Legion on July 18, 2020. John Boersma, president of Mission One, explained Class C fireworks will be used. The area will be roped off on the west side of the building, 250 yards from buildings, and 200 feet from trees and 200 yards from spectators. Mr. Sharpe asked who will be setting off the fireworks. Someone that works at the Corner Store that used to be licensed for Class B will be the only one setting off the fireworks. Chief Wilkening received calls from concerned neighbors. This would set a precedent for others wanting to get permits and using taxpayers' money for stand-by personnel and equipment. Chief Fisher noted the fireworks usage cutoff date is July 9th. A brief discussion continued on event security. Mr. Boersma will have four security personnel and plans to get two police officers for the 30-40-minute event, insurance is in place.

A motion to approve was made by John Foreman with second by Julie Rivera. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

2. Kozlowski Light Pole Relocation Request – 10915-21 W. 133rd Ave. (Deferred from June 16, 2020)

Mrs. Murr stated the relocation estimate is \$7,500. Mr. Niemeyer added Mr. Kozlowski agreed to pay half of the cost at the last meeting. Mr. Kozlowski received a facade grant from the RDC and requested the move for aesthetics reasons. Mr. Foreman asked where the funds would come from if an agreement was made with Mr. Kozlowski. Mrs. Murr responded from the general fund or the Redevelopment Commission's TIF fund. A brief discussion continued on pole relocation.

A motion to deny relocation was made by Richard Sharpe with second by Julie Rivera. Mrs. Murr asked if that includes not relocating it at all. Mr. Sharpe stated he's against moving it. Mr. Kubiak added symmetries would be lost if the decorative pole was relocated. He stated they could blackout the rear of the shield. Mr. Sharpe concurred with the motion to deny the relocation altogether. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

3. Summerfest Request

Mrs. Murr explained correspondence was sent to Mr. Niemeyer from Mary Joan and Gordon Dickson. The Cedar Lake Summerfest Committee would like to donate paint for the stage and light poles on the lake if park personnel would do the painting. Mr. Kubiak confirmed staff would be available to paint.

A motion to approve the donation of paint was made by Ralph Miller with second by Richard Sharpe. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

4. Temporary Easement Agreement Acceptance – Hanover Community School Corp

Mrs. Murr explained the Redevelopment Commission is doing a spotlight project at 133rd Avenue and King Drive. A temporary easement is needed from the high school to extend the sidewalk up to the entrance of the school. It is recommended Council accept and acknowledge the agreement.

A motion to accept the agreement was made by Richard Sharpe with second by Julie Rivera. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

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5. Board of Safety Appointments

Mr. Niemeyer explained the nominations will be done one at a time for a two-year term appointment and a one-year term appointment. The floor was opened for the two-year term nominations. Ralph Miller nominated Josh Govert for the two-year term with second by Richard Sharpe. Mr. Niemeyer called for other nominations. Receiving none, the nominations were closed. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0. Mr. Niemeyer stated Josh Govert is appointed to the two-year term to the Board of Safety and is a Republican by declaration. A Democrat or an Independent has to be nominated for the one-year term.

Julie Rivera nominated Jim Hunley for the one-year term with second by John Foreman. Mr. Niemeyer called for other nominations. Ralph Miller nominated Norm Stick with second by Richard Sharpe. Mr. Niemeyer called for any other nominations. Receiving none, the nominations were closed.

Roll call vote for Jim Hunley: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – No, Richard Sharpe – No, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – No. Vote: 3-3.

Mr. Niemeyer stated the Clerk-Treasurer was the tie-breaker. Mrs. Sandberg declined to vote.

Roll call vote for Norm Stick: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – No, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – No, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 4-3. Norm Stick is appointed to the one-year term to the Board of Safety.

6. Cedar Lake Historical Association Request

Mrs. Murr reported the Cedar Lake Historical Association was granted tourism funds this year for their steamboat project. The project has been postponed until 2021 due to COVID-19. The association is asking to use those funds for next year's event. The funds have not yet been received. Discussion followed on State Board of Accounts/DLGF guidelines for carrying over fund allocations. Mrs. Murr explained the association is applying for a grant to help fund the event and requests a letter of support from Mr. Niemeyer for the grant application.

A motion to approve the requests with contingency on receipt of funds to transfer to the 2021 event was made by Richard Sharpe with second by Ralph Miller. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

REPORTS

1. Town Council

Mr. Carnahan reported one point was gained on the census and we are now at 73.4%. He posts on Facebook but doesn't know what more he can do. The phone number to report is (844) 330-2020.

Mr. Niemeyer reported a Fire Territory MOU was voted on at the last meeting. The Mayor of Crown Point is requesting the working group of the fire territory equally cost share in the first initial engagement. The initial engagement will be a conference call on July 9th for discovery and analysis of the taxing entities current assets, revenue streams and expenses.

A motion to rescind the contingency that cost allocation be based on population was made by Julie Rivera with second by Richard Sharpe. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – No, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 5 - 1.

Mr. Niemeyer added the initial cost of the last investigation into a Fire Territory was approximately \$10,000.

Mr. Foreman received an email from Sue on the lake's water quality. She was unable to find test results for this year. Mr. Foreman asked Mrs. Murr to contact County for testing information. Mr. Carnahan reported testing is done on Thursdays and the area around South Shore was polluted as of June 25th according to the Lake County Health Department. Another report should've been done on July 2nd. Testing information is available on the Indiana government website.

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a. Council Affairs

Mrs. Murr reported moving forward on the budget and analyzing any revenue shortfalls due to COVID. Mr. Niemeyer asked about stormwater. Work continues on projects discussed at last week's Stormwater Board meeting. The property owner of one of the Colfax projects was not in favor of the recommendation presented; other options are being considered. Costs for 142nd are being reviewed. Mr. Niemeyer stated one was completed on Fawn Court. He praised Mr. Kubiak, Don, and staff for their hard work. Mr. Carnahan added the street department worked on Washington Street and Lake Shore recently. Mr. Niemeyer would like to have a meeting with Chief Fisher, the Public Safety Committee as well as two members of the Board of Safety on July 17th. Mrs. Rivera asked for it to be in the evening. It was agreed upon to meet at 4PM on the 17th. Mr. Niemeyer asked Charlie to get two of the Board of Safety members to attend. They have a police officer to replace with the passing of Officer Wood. Chief Wilkening requested a meeting to discuss his facilities. Mr. Niemeyer replied that meeting could possibly be the following week and should include someone from the working facilities committee, due to the voluminous list sent. Two members of the Public Safety Board should also attend. Mr. Foreman will be scheduling an Eco-Restoration meeting to discuss a four task plan. Mr. Sharpe asked Mrs. Murr to get a street committee meeting together.

2. Town Attorney

Mr. Niemeyer asked for a motion to amend the agenda to allow items for consideration from the attorney.

A motion to amend the agenda to allow items for consideration was made by Ralph Miller with second by Richard Sharpe. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0.

Mr. Austgen commented the Council is aware of the IURC petition that is currently ongoing. One week ago circumstances in that proceeding changed because of staffing changes at London Witte Group. Based upon those circumstances, it is recommended by the Utility Attorney in Indianapolis and Mr. Austgen that the services of London Witte Group be terminated on all matters but specifically the water rate petition. It is recommended the Town offer a position of employment to Sue Haase, so she may complete her task on behalf of the Town for the petition proceeding.

A motion to approve the termination of London Witte Group and extend an offer of employment as explained was made by Julie Rivera with second by Richard Sharpe. Roll call vote: Robert Carnahan – Yes, John Foreman – Yes, Ralph Miller – Yes, Richard Sharpe – Yes, Julie Rivera – Yes, Randy Niemeyer – Yes. Vote: 6 - 0

3. Clerk-Treasurer

Mrs. Sandberg reported Resolutions No. 1251 and 1252 for temporary loans approved in January were repaid on time with the spring tax settlement. The tax settlement was a pleasant surprise. With the pandemic her office prepared for the worse. The settlement was approximately 49% of the total levy with the TIF settlement slightly lower at 44%. A brief discussion continued.

4. Town Administrator – No report.

5. Director of Operations – No report.

6. Police Department

Chief Fisher reported 769 incidents and calls for May; 208 citizen assists, 191 traffic related, 130 ordinance related. Chief will have cost for new trucks for the Council Affairs meeting. They are working on maintenance costs. There are three trucks at 100,000 miles. Mr. Niemeyer asked for maintenance costs on those vehicles for the July 17th meeting. Chief stated he would try. He reported the family of Corporal Wood is doing fairly well. A family sold lemonade and donated the proceeds to the Wood family. He would like to recognize that family at the August council meeting. Chief Fisher and the Police Department were thankful and grateful for the support shown for Corporal Wood and his family as well as the department.

7. Fire Department – No report.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

1. Softball Patron Parking

Mr. Niemeyer reported he and Mrs. Murr visited the softball fields after a complaint was received. Chief Fisher reported he was unaware of the parking issue until he received a recent complaint. A discussion continued on issues in the neighborhood with tournaments and parking issues. Mrs. Murr received an email from Kelly Henderson, 13501 Osborne

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Street, complaining about parking during softball tournaments; parking on both sides of 135th Place despite no parking signs; parking on the grass as well as damage. She asked about permits for the events. Photos were received by Mrs. Murr's office today. It was discussed that additional signage will be put up by Public Works. Mr. Niemeyer discussed residents in the area all supportive of softball but are concerned with parking in front of mailboxes and driveways; possibly hindering fire truck access. It is Council's duty to protect the safety of the community and the rights of property owners.

2. Christopher B. Burke Report

Mrs. Murr reported we should be getting a closeout letter from INDOT for 133rd Avenue Phase II. A road committee meeting will be scheduled. CBEL is awaiting final pavement testing results to complete the contract and specifications for the HIP road project. Bids for the project will go out shortly thereafter.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Joan Dickson, 8711 W. 132 Place, commented on available funds from park impact fees. She asked if there was a timeline for Bartlett/Wahlberg Park's completion. Mr. Niemeyer responded he and Mrs. Murr had recent discussions on the matter. Ms. Murr reported work on design for a picnic area is in progress. Mrs. Dickson asked about Indiana Code governing timeline for the sale of public property, referring to the property at 133rd Avenue and Osborne Street. Mr. Niemeyer responded the bid was awarded to Mr. Thiel and closing is being worked on. Mr. Austgen commented that he doesn't have the exact code. It is under Title 36. He's in communication with Mr. Thiel. Mr. Thiel is working on land plans that will go before the Plan Commission.

Carl Schneider, 14890 Carey Street, complained about trailers and campers parked in the street and driveways. Chief Fisher discussed an ordinance that was proposed several years ago to prohibit such vehicles from parking on the street and residents' property. The ordinance did not pass. Currently it is legal as long as the vehicle is properly plated. Mr. Austgen added the Council could regulate parking. Mr. Niemeyer stated there are just as many people that would oppose parking regulations; suggesting it become a work session item.

Richard Thiel, 11363 W. 136th Place, addressed some of Mrs. Dickson's concerns. His architect is working on pricing out the building. He wants to be prepared before appearing before the Plan Commission. A meeting with the architect is scheduled for next week.

Father John Kowalczyk, 10717 W. 134th Place, lives on the street leading to the softball field and is concerned with speeding in the area during tournaments. Father John asked if speed bumps could be installed forcing people to slow down. Mr. Niemeyer discussed the need to have greater community collaboration to create alternate parking locations. Cedar Lake Softball and Little League need to work together to resolve parking issues.

Sara Wornhoff, 10708 W. 133rd Place, is a softball board member and resident of the neighborhood. They have tried working with residents and other organizations, discussing past measures to address parking complaints. They were unaware of the recent thirty-one complaints. There were less than five complaints that the board was aware of. They cannot address issues if they are unaware of them. They are trying to address issues as they come up. They are a new board and doing the best they can with what they've got. Mrs. Wornhoff asked residents to reach out to them. They are willing to work with residents. Contact information will be made available to the Town Administrator.

Alex LaRocca, 135th and Osborne, highly recommends speed bumps in the area. The park separating the fields is used for parking for both events; asking if parking area could be divided and designated for simultaneous events, each having their own parking area. Mr. Niemeyer suggested the two entities get together to work something out.

Mr. Niemeyer read a written comment submitted by Larry Henderson. The neighborhood becomes chaotic when tournaments are held. They park in a retention area where damage hasn't been repaired from an October 17th tournament. Photos have been sent to the town manager since then. RV's have set up camp in the area and owners become belligerent when asked to leave. The softball events are too big for the neighborhood. It was nice to see law enforcement write tickets about ten days ago. A copy can be found at the end of the minutes.

Mrs. Murr received two emails from Kathy Broomhead asking if the police chief needed vehicle lock out tool kits and how many. Chief Fisher replied the kits are used to assist residence when they lock their keys in the vehicle. The second email asked if the fire chief could bring his daily reports. Mr. Niemeyer asked if Chief Wilkening had activity reports like Chief Fisher provides. Chief Wilkening stated they could but it was a lot of information to go through. A copy can be found at the end of the minutes.

ADJOURNMENT Council President Niemeyer called the meeting to adjournment at approximately 9:15 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

Questions for proposed Fire Service Fee

Town Council members,

Several Chamber members have posed questions about the proposed Fire Department Service Fees the council is planning to establish. I am going to try to attend the meeting tonight but in case I am delayed, I wanted you to have their questions and comments. These business men and women only found out about the proposed service fees a day ago and are very concerned that at no time were the charges discussed for public input. They also expressed concern that the public in general does not know of these fees which could seriously impact them as they go through a fire.

- Many insurance companies at this time include a \$500.00 fire service fee which they say can be billed by a governmental agency. Insurance agent's question what you base your fee structure on, suggesting the fees seem to be exorbitant and look like a "cash grab" during a time of emergency when the public has been hit by an expensive fire.
- Several business owners questioned what their taxes are paying for, especially when you will not only be charging for equipment that can be used over and over again, but for salaries as well, which they feel should be covered by their taxes.
- Why should a victim of a fire ie... business have to pay for a piece of equipment that has been damaged?
- Who determines what equipment, not only trucks but shovels, rakes etc. is used?
- Will these service fees be in addition to a new tax for the propose fire territory?
- If other communities fire departments are called in to fight a fire, will they also charge these fees? (As an example, when the East

Side Shopping Center had a fire last year, several other departments were here, some on standby. Would the shopping centers owner have had to pay for all departments – possible estimates suggest \$25,000 to \$40,000 in additional costs over and above the loss.)

- If an adjoining business has a fire, would the neighboring business have to pay the costs?
- If the Cedar Lake Fire Department helps another community fight a fire, will our local department be reimbursed?
- Thank you for your consideration of these comments and questions, as a chamber we ask that you consider the financial impact on local businesses especially when a fire literally stops their flow of income.
- Diane Jostes, Executive Director

From: Kathy Broomhead
[mailto:kathybroomhead66@gmail.com]
Sent: [Tuesday, July 07, 2020 5:35 PM](#)
To: Jill Murr
Subject:

Did the police chief needed vehicle lockout tool kits? And how many?

From: Kathy Broomhead
[mailto:kathybroomhead66@gmail.com]
Sent: [Tuesday, July 07, 2020 6:29 PM](#)
To: Jill Murr
Subject:

Does the fire chief can bring his daily reports ?

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Larry Henderson** <larryjhenderson@att.net>
Date: Tue, Jul 7, 2020 at 4:41 PM
Subject: Tonight's meeting.
To: towncouncil11@gmail.com <towncouncil11@gmail.com>, john.foreman@cedarlakein.org <john.foreman@cedarlakein.org>, julie.rivera@cedarlakein.org <julie.rivera@cedarlakein.org>, ralph.miller@cedarlakein.org <ralph.miller@cedarlakein.org>, randy.niemeyer@cedarlakein.org <randy.niemeyer@cedarlakein.org>, colleen.schieben@cedarlakein.org <colleen.schieben@cedarlakein.org>, richard.sharpe@cedarlakein.org <richard.sharpe@cedarlakein.org>

I understand there is a meeting about the parking at Hanover Park tonight. When the Cedar Lake Girls Softball (Riptide) holds these tournaments our neighborhood becomes chaotic and feels under siege.

They park on grass that's a retention area, and still have not repaired damage from an October 2017 tournament. I have sent several e-mails to the town manager with photo's since then.

Several times this year we as neighbors had to run off RV's that think they can just set up camp here, most times they become belligerent.

One neighbors Vinyl fence was damaged by people hitting softballs against the homeowners fence.

They start these tournaments before 7 a.m. and last well into the night and last 3 days. Actually one event even lasted until a Monday (4 days).

These softball events are to big for our neighborhood and a great deal of homeowners are fed up.

It was nice to see law enforcement write tickets about 10 days ago. Last night they parked on both sides of the Hanover Park entrance and a emergency vehicle would of had a hard time getting through.

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Also we have no idea who these out of state people are that are flooding into our neighborhood. One thing for sure is they show little respect for us. Running stop signs, speeding, tailgating loudly, throwing garbage wherever they feel, drinking.

I know softball needs to make money from a theft of an previous league official, we all know the story. But we have suffered enough. We deserve better, how about helping us out.

Also I usually have everything mentioned above in photos. These photos are just a regular night (Monday), clearly states no parking.

Thanks for you time,

Larry Henderson