

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



January 3, 2023

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	John Foreman Vice-President	At Large
Present	Julie Rivera Council Member	Ward 2	Present	Richard Sharpe President	At Large
Present	Nick Recupito Council Member	Ward 3	Present	Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMC, CMC, CPFIM Clerk-Treasurer	
Present	Ralph Miller Council Member	Ward 4	Present	Chris Salatas Town Manager	
Present	Colleen Schieben Council Member	Ward 5	Present	David Austgen Town Attorney	

President Sharpe welcomed newly elected Council Member Nick Recupito. Mr. Recupito stated he’s thankful he was chosen for the position. He stated he looks forward to working with everyone.

PRESENTATION: Police Department Promotions

Chief Fisher presented and pinned the following individuals promoted within the department. Ryan Miller and Eric Godoy were promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Richard Pennington, Allen Sulski, and Douglas Machalk were promoted to the rank of Corporal.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. **Ordinance No. 1434 – Bay Bridge Annexation (Continued from December 6, 2022)**
Mr. Salatas requested a deferral to the February 7, 2023 meeting.

A motion to defer was made by Julie Rivera with second by Colleen Schieben. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 7 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Minutes:** December 20, 2022, and December 28, 2022.
2. **Claims:** All Town Funds: \$369,538.25; Wastewater Operating: \$47,293.39; Water Utility: \$15,387.71; Storm Water: \$7,735.71; and Payroll: 12/22/2022 & 12/30/2022 - \$288,363.21

A motion to accept and waive the reading of the minutes and accept the consent agenda as listed was made by Ralph Miller with second by Julie Rivera. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 7 – 0.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

1. **Resolution No. 1329: Temporary Loan 2017, A, B, and C Bonds**
Council Member Foreman read by title only. Clerk-Treasurer Sandberg explained this was a temporary loan request in the amount of \$212,326.61. It is a temporary loan from Fund #633 WWTP Special to Fund #412 RDA A, B, & C Bonds.

A motion to approve Resolution No. 1329 was made by John Foreman with second by Colleen Schieben. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 7 – 0.

BZA/PLAN

1. **BZA 2022-51, Gifford – 13530 Morse Street – Variance of Use**
This item received a favorable recommendation from the BZA on December 8, 2022, by unanimous vote. Mr. Salatas explained this is a variance of use to allow two uses within one building. One business is real estate company and the other is an insurance company.

A motion to approve was made by Nick Recupito with second by Robert Carnahan. Mr. Austgen asked for them to add that approval is subject to any conditions of the BZA. Mr. Recupito amended his motion to include approval is subject to the conditions of the BZA.

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Mr. Carnahan concurred. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 7 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approving new Police Department hire Sabrina Stolarz

Chief Fisher presented Sabrina Stolarz as the favorable recommendation from the Board of Safety. This is for the new hire approved in the 2023 budget. This approval is to get the PERF process started. This is not the actual hiring process.

A motion to approve was made by Colleen Schieben with second by Julie Rivera. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 7 – 0.

2. Y2023 Professional Services Agreement: Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd.

Mr. Salatas explained this is the annual service agreement with Christopher B. Burke Engineering. They handle a large portion of the Town's engineering services. There are no significant changes from previous years.

A motion to approve and allow signature by the President was made by John Foreman with second by Colleen Schieben. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 7 – 0.

REPORTS

- 1. Town Council** – Mr. Carnahan noted the Christmas trees need to be disassembled by January 8th in order for the street department to dispose of them. A brief discussion occurred on disposal of the trees. Mr. Foreman congratulated Mr. Sharpe on being appointed President of the Town Council.
- 2. Town Attorney** - None
- 3. Clerk-Treasurer** – Ms. Sandberg reported the Town is in receipt of the fall settlement as well as the 1782 Notice. The budget was approved as submitted with a modification to the new debt service fund. A brief discussion continued.
- 4. Town Manager** – Mr. Salatas reported there were a lot of projects that kicked off in 2022. He's grateful to have the opportunity to serve the community. 2023 is shaping up to be a promising year.
- 5. Director of Operations** - None
- 6. Police Department** - None
- 7. Fire Department** - None

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Toth, 9725 B W. 129th Place, discussed chapter 30.06 of the Town Code. He voiced his concerns with the election of Town Council officers occurring last month, before the first meeting of 2023. Mr. Austgen stated they elected the time to do that by their convenience. Mr. Toth voiced concerns with that statement. He stated he has heard the Council state on numerous occasions that there are ordinances which are the rules to follow. He stated he didn't hear them do that. He voiced concerns that the newly elected Town Council member didn't get a vote. Mr. Foreman stated Mr. Toth had a valid point. Mr. Foreman made a motion to amend the agenda and allow the item for action. He nominated Richard Sharpe for Town Council President. A second was made by Colleen Schieben. No other nominations were made. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 7 – 0. Ralph Miller nominated John Foreman for Town Council Vice-President. A second was made by Colleen Schieben. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 7 – 0.

ADJOURNMENT President Sharpe called the meeting to adjournment at approximately 7:31 PM.

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

Richard Sharpe, President

John Foreman, Vice President

Robert H. Carnahan

Julie Rivera

Nicholas Recupito

Ralph Miller

ATTEST:

Colleen Schieben

Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMC, CMC, CPFIM
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.