

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



October 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	

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Ordinance No. 1456, Public Way Vacation Continued Public Hearing – Rago

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

2. Resolution No. 1340, Additional Appropriation

- a. Review of Legals – Clerk-Treasurer Sandberg reported the notices were published timely on September 22, 2023 in both The Times and the Post-Tribune.
- b. Opening Remarks - Ms. Sandberg stated this additional appropriation is for the General Fund and the Community Crossing Grant Fund. This is requesting an additional \$117,800 in the General Fund. That is for \$42,800 within the Planning, Zoning, and Building Department to cover anticipated engineer and attorney costs for the remainder of the year. It is also for \$75,000 for the Fire Department to cover overtime and professional consulting. The Community Crossing Grant Fund is for a total of \$831,600 for the first phase of the Shades project.
- c. Reading of Resolution No. 1340 – Council Member Foreman read Resolution No. 1340 by title only.
- d. Remonstrators - None
- e. Town Council Discussion - None
- f. Town Council Decision  
A motion to approve Resolution No. 1340 was made by Robert Carnahan with second by Ralph Miller. 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. Claims: All Town Funds: \$158,718.93; Wastewater Operating: \$58,228.77; Water Utility: \$20,714.40; Storm Water: \$13,056.47; and Payroll: 9/28/23 and 10/1/23 - \$279,501.47

A motion to accept the consent agenda as listed was made by Colleen Schieben with second by Ralph Miller. Mr. Carnahan asked about the payment of the digital clock if it was paid out of multiple categories. Ms. Sandberg stated no. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 7 – 0.

Mrs. Rivera made a motion to amend the agenda for a personnel item. 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.

Mrs. Rivera stated upon further review, she wants to make a motion to rescind the appointment of Dave Abshire to the Plan Commission. She stated they cannot appoint a Republican to the seat. She apologized to Mr. Abshire. 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.

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**ORDINANCES**

**1. Ordinance No. 1478 – Amending Ordinance No. 1465, Special Events Permit Ordinance**

Mr. Salatas stated this amendment would take the \$25.00 fee down to \$0. Mr. Carnahan asked if the \$2,500 fine was still in the ordinance. Mr. Salatas stated that is correct. That is representative of the other fine structures within the Town. Council Member Foreman read Ordinance No. 1478 by title only.

A motion to approve Ordinance No. 1478 was made by Ralph Miller with second by Colleen Schieben. Roll Call: Carnahan – No, Rivera – Yes, Recupito – Yes, Miller – Yes, Schieben – Yes, Foreman – Yes, Sharpe – Yes. Vote: 6 – 1.

**BZA/PLAN**

**1. Performance Letter of Credit Extension for Rose Garden Estates, Unit 1, in the amount of \$6,067,696.25**

Mr. Salatas stated this letter of credit is being held with Peoples Bank. This is a one-year extension to October 11, 2024.

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Approval of Zachary Bailey as a Paramedic/Firefighter**

*Received a favorable recommendation from the Board of Safety on 9-27-2023.* Chief Wilkening stated Mr. Bailey is a replacement to the roster. The approval tonight will get the PERF process started but, in the meantime, he would like to have him work part-time to fill gaps in the schedule as well as gain experience. Mr. Bailey introduced himself.

A motion to approve was made by Colleen Schieben with second by Robert Carnahan. 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 stated Mr. Recupito told him he spoke with the Winfield Town Council President about building. He asked Mr. Recupito to explain. Mr. Recupito stated the path they are taking in their community is less density regarding residential housing. He stated it seems to be working out well for them and they seem to be sticking to it. He stated if that is a path the community wants to take, that is something they need to consider next year. Mr. Carnahan reiterated no townhouses or paired villas, just single-family homes. Mr. Recupito stated that is what he was told. Mr. Carnahan stated Winfield is one of the three fastest growing communities in the State that includes Cedar Lake and St. John. Mr. Foreman asked Mr. Salatas to give a brief synopsis on residential TIF and the new law that has passed. Mr. Salatas reported residential housing TIF was authorized by the State legislature beginning in July. It allows communities to TIF residential subdivisions, much like it has been traditionally done for commercial properties. Mr. Carnahan asked if it has a limit of three years. Mr. Salatas stated the sunset in the State legislation, sunsets the authorization in three years. Mr. Recupito reported from Lake County Solid Waste. They are holding a household hazardous waste and shredding event at Griffith Public Works on Saturday, October 21, 2023 from 9AM to 2PM. Mrs. Schieben reported Trunk or Treat would be held on the Town Grounds on Saturday, October 28, 2023 from 12:00PM to 2:30PM. No registration needed. Mr. Carnahan stated Cedar Lake United Methodist Church would be having one the next day from 3PM to 5PM. A brief discussion continued on the events.
- 2. Town Attorney** - No report.
- 3. Clerk-Treasurer** – Ms. Sandberg reported the public hearing for the 2024 Budget will be held on Friday, October 6, 2023 at 7PM. This will be for the first reading. The second reading will be held at the October 17, 2023 at the regularly scheduled Town Council meeting. Mr. Foreman asked if they could make the meeting earlier than 7PM. Ms. Sandberg stated no. The Notice to Taxpayers has already gone out and is live. It is set with the DLGF and cannot be changed.
- 4. Town Manager** – No report.
- 5. Director of Operations** – No report.
- 6. Police Department** – Chief Fisher stated he would like to start the process to install stop signs at 135<sup>th</sup> and Parrish by Winding Creek. The issue is the speeds of the vehicles coming northbound from 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He believes stop signs would slow the traffic down. He discussed the proximity to the elementary school. A brief discussion continued on traffic in that area.

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- 7. Fire Department** – Chief Wilkening stated the department Open House and pancake breakfast would be on Sunday, October 14, 2023 from 7AM to 2PM.

## WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Mrs. Schieben stated she received an email from Kathleen Crissey, 14817 Drummond St B, regarding an issue with her neighbors who installed a security light. Mrs. Schieben read the email into the record. *A copy can be found at the end of the minutes.* Mr. Kubiak stated they do have a lighting ordinance that states exactly that. Mr. Kubiak stated it was pretty strict. Mr. Salatas stated it is in the zoning ordinance and does carry a fine.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Tracy Haskell, 13436 Osborne St, on behalf of the Cedar Lake-Hanover Democratic Organization, stated they would like to ask for Heather Dessauer to be reinstated to the Plan Commission. Mrs. Haskell stated she has always showed up to meetings with questions and done her job. She asked them to consider reinstating her. Mrs. Rivera stated they are not filling it right now but she has reached out to Mrs. Dessauer. It would be up to her and this point. The person has to be willing. Mr. Carnahan stated he would be willing to make that motion. Mr. Miller stated he would second the motion. Mrs. Dessauer stated she had no comment this evening.

**ADJOURNMENT** President Sharpe called the meeting to adjournment at approximately 7:30 PM.

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

Richard Sharpe, President

John Foreman, Vice President

Robert H. Carnahan

Julie Rivera

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Nicholas Recupito

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Ralph Miller

ATTEST:

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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.
- (5) Any additional information required under section 3.5 or 3.6 of this chapter or any other statute that authorizes a governing body to conduct a meeting using an electronic means of communication.

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Jennifer Sandberg

**From:** Colleen Schieben  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 7:29 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Sandberg  
**Subject:** Fw: New town ordinance

**From:** KATHLEEN CRISSEY  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 3, 2023 4:54 PM  
**To:** Colleen Schieben <Colleen.Schieben@cedarlakein.org>  
**Cc:** Margaret Abernathy <margaret.abernathy@cedarlakein.org>  
**Subject:** Re: New town ordinance

On 10/02/2023 2:28 PM CDT KATHLEEN CRISSEY wrote:

Dear Ms.Schieben,

Please see attached photos of from my bedroom and great room after neighbor installed a security light. This light does not shine down on ground but directly into my home and 2 other neighbors to North of me. Police were contacted and it appears this man Daryl Batey, whose wife Jennifer owns home and property laughed. I was hoping that we could request an ordinance be added to the nuisance.ordinance for Cedar Lake regarding security lights and how they are to be used.

I scoured our towns ordinances, county ordinance as well as state and there is nothing referencing lights. Neighboring towns of Dyer, Crown Point, Schererville and Merrillville do having language and ordinances for light pollution or light trespass and fines are placed against individuals who do not follow guidelines. Lights should be no brighter than 600 lumens and not shine past individuals property lines.

I am hoping to attend town meeting tomorrow to bring this proposal to council and any assistance you may have would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,

Kathleen Crissey  
14817 Drummond Street #B  
Cedar Lake, IN. 46303

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.