

**TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
MINUTES OF THE UTILITY BOARD**

August 20, 2019

**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 Board Member	Ward 1	Present	Greg Parker Board Member	Ward 6
Present	John Foreman Board Member	Ward 2	Present	Richard Sharpe Board Vice President	Ward 7
Present	Julie Rivera Board Member	Ward 3	Present	Jennifer N. Sandberg Clerk-Treasurer	
Present	Ralph Miller Board Member	Ward 4	Present	Jill Murr, CPM, IAMC, MMC Town Administrator	
Present	Randell Niemeyer Board President	Ward 5	Present	David Austgen Town Attorney	

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes – July 16, 2019

A motion to approve minutes was made by Julie Rivera with second by Richard Sharpe. President Niemeyer called for a voice vote. Voice vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays.

2. Written Report

- a. Fund Report – Clerk Treasurer Sandberg presented an updated expenditure report.

3. Consultant(s) & Staff Report(s)

- a. Engineer - NIES
 - i. West Side Sanitary Interceptor Update – Neil Simstad discussed the task list update. The locate survey is approximately 90% complete. The railroad application has been submitted as well as the application for right of entry. They will know where to go with proposed easements after they get the preliminary design specifications and soil boring reports.
 - ii. SSES Update – Neil Simstad reported all known manholes have been located and shot. The layout of the draft report for the Lauerman Interceptor was explained. Sixty-one of sixty-five documented structures have been located. Eighteen of twenty-eight Morse Street structures are completed; many are believed to be buried under pavement or in someone's backyard. Public Works continues to work on finding the remaining structures.
- b. Financial Advisor – LWG

Sue Haase discussed filing in front of the IURC in 2020 to restructure our rates; taking them down from three to one rate. Ms. Haase spoke with the regulatory attorney. If we file at the end of February or the beginning of March, we should have an order out of the commission by the end of 2020. Mr. Niemeyer and Ms. Haase discussed rate structuring. She offered to do preliminary work on restructuring ahead of time and then plug in the 2019 year end numbers. Discussion followed on timelines, another source of supply or phasing in a water tower. Mr. Niemeyer asked for an engagement agreement for the rate restructuring from London Witte for the September 17th meeting. Discussion turned to the impact of Lowell's volatile annual true-up payments and fluctuation of the Wastewater Utility Operating Fund. Attorney Austgen suggested a precursor letter to Lowell Council requesting to meet with their Clerk-Treasurer to discuss mitigation of the annual true-up payments. Mr. Niemeyer instructed Ms. Murr and Ms. Haase to draft the letter. Ms. Haase also discussed operational analysis on Wastewater and Water Utilities, resolutions needed and sewer debt rolling off. There has been interest from underwriters on refunding SRF debt for refinancing; will take a look at those.
- c. Father John Kowalczyk spoke of water issues at St. Michael's Catholic Church. The 2011 original well went bad and was replaced; still having issues with silt and sand coming into building. The well company recommended tying into Town's water. Father John asked what the process is. Discussion followed on installing lines, number of required fire hydrants, encroachment on another's property and cost. Father John was advised to contact well companies for quotes on a deeper well considering the extensive cost of a tie-in.

TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
MINUTES OF THE UTILITY BOARD

- d. Director of Operations/Superintendent
 - i. Operation & Maintenance Report

Mr. Kubiak reported on the progress of locating remaining manholes and Robin's Nest pump house issues. Kyle Berkes was introduced as the new Wastewater Foreman.
 - e. Town Administrator – no report
 - f. Town Attorney – no report
- 4. JMOB Report

Mr. Sharpe reported on the July 23rd meeting. The EQ basin liner will be patched and repaired for 2019; looking into a replacement liner in 2020. Mr. Niemeyer discussed working with Lowell to get the IDEM Sewer Interceptor order delayed or updated.
- 5. Utility Projects – Discussed earlier
 - a. Water
 - i. Supply
 - ii. Rates & Charges
 - b. Wastewater

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Carnahan commented on sewer still getting into the lake and asked why we aren't doing anything to stop it. Mr. Austgen and Mr. Kubiak explained the cause and what is being done to rectify the problem. Mr. Kubiak added 99% of the surcharge is water not sewer. Contractors are being researched to repair some of the broken manhole structures.

ADJOURNMENT President Niemeyer called the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:37 PM.

TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA UTILITY BOARD

Randy Niemeyer, President

Richard Sharpe, Vice President

Robert H. Carnahan

John Foreman

Julie Rivera

Ralph Miller

ATTEST:

Greg Parker

Jennifer N. Sandberg
Clerk-Treasurer

The Minutes of the Cedar Lake Utility Board 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.