

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

November 19, 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 – October 15, 2019

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

2. Written Report

- a. Fund Report – Clerk Treasurer Sandberg stated she emailed and printed the current fund report for them which include recent expenditures and current cash balances. She stated one of the claims approved this evening was for the 50% portion due from Cedar Lake to Lowell for the new gas lines at the wastewater treatment plant. JMOB previously approved the work.

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

- a. Engineer - NIES
 - i. West Side Sanitary Interceptor Update – Howard Jones with NIES Engineering reported that surveying is complete and they are waiting on utility work from AT&T. They are awaiting a response from CSX. The IDEM permit application is in draft form.
 - ii. SSES Update – Mr. Jones reported that the utility department is preparing to video the line. They'll need that back before they can determine next steps. Mr. Perez reported they are working on the new part for the camera.
 - iii. Utility Capital Asset Improvement Plan – Mr. Jones reported they've been working on it for a few weeks now. That is to categorize the assets they have into a format so they can plan the capital improvements. He discussed some of the asset items they are looking at and the costs associated with replacement. Further discussion occurred on assets and aging utilities. Mr. Austgen asked Mr. Jones about concerns presented related to the East Side Sanitary Sewer. He stated he asked Neil to take a look at that and potentially prepare a proposal. It was asked if NIES could prepare that proposal for the next meeting. Mr. Jones stated they would have it prepared by December 3rd for consideration. A brief discussion continued.
- b. Director of Operations/Superintendent Report – Mr. Perez gave the board a mapping of the lift stations as previously requested. The manhole rehabilitation was completed today. Six manholes were rehabbed. They estimate 150 – 200 GPM has been eliminated from going into the sewers with these repairs. Mr. Foreman asked about the work on Parrish. Mr. Perez stated that is the replacement for Lift Station #9. A brief discussion continued on access to the lift stations. Mr. Niemeyer asked about work on their side with the SSES. Mr. Perez stated work is going along. He gave them a quote for a new tractor for the camera. He asked for approval to move forward with that purchase. This is a unique piece of capital equipment. A motion to approve the tractor purchase at the price of \$34,000 was made by John Foreman with second by Julie Rivera. President Niemeyer called for a voice vote. Voice vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays.
- c. Town Administrator – They are trying to coordinate the next JMOB meeting. They are looking at December 9, 2019 but not all staff can attend. Mr. Niemeyer asked her to continue pursuing an evening meeting but another member can fill in for that December 9th meeting. It was asked for Mr. Carnahan to fill in. A

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motion to appoint Bob as a temporary JMOB stand in was made by John Foreman with second by Ralph Miller. President Niemeyer called for a voice vote. Voice vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays.

Ms. Murr stated they are continuing to work with the financial advisor on the utility budget items as previously discussed. Mr. Niemeyer gave a brief explanation.

- d. Town Attorney – Mr. Austgen stated he is working on the East Side Water in preparation with the rates and supply issues. He is working with NIES Engineering on the routing for the West Side Sewer Interceptor.

- 4. Engagement Agreements** – Ms. Murr recommended these items be deferred to the special meeting on December 3rd. Mr. Austgen stated the consultants are being asked to forecast a years’ worth of expense. A motion to defer was made by John Foreman with second by Richard Sharpe. President Niemeyer called for a voice vote. Voice vote: 7 Ayes 0 Nays.

5. **JMOB Report** – Next meeting is December 9, 2019. President Niemeyer stated he was invited to a meeting with Craig Hendricks and Jim Streeter in regards to the solar project that Lowell has talked about. It was a good meeting with questions by both sides. There is a second entity involved being that the local entities can't utilize tax credits. It would essentially be a lease purchase agreement. Long term savings with the project is purely speculative at this point. A lengthy discussion continued on the project. Mr. Carnahan asked about having an annual meeting with Lake Dale. It's been many years. Mr. Niemeyer asked Ms. Murr to reach out to Lake Dale about getting a meeting on the schedule for January. Mr. Carnahan voiced concerns with 159th and previous issues with infrastructure. Mr. Niemeyer asked Mr. Austgen to pull some historical documents to begin review and work on a path forward. A brief discussion continued.

- 6. Utility Projects** - Previously reported.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

ADJOURNMENT President Niemeyer called the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 PM.

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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.