

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

April 27, 2023

**Public Meeting Advertised for 6:30 PM
Conducted at the Cedar Lake Town Hall
Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence**



Roll Call:

Present	Robert H. Carnahan	Ward 1	Present	John Foreman	At Large
	Board Member			Board Member	
Present	Julie Rivera	Ward 2	Present	Richard Sharpe	At Large
	Board Member			Board Vice-President	
Present	Nick Recupito	Ward 3	Present	Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMC, CMC, CPFIM	
	Board President			Clerk-Treasurer	
Present	Ralph Miller	Ward 4	Present	Chris Salatas	
	Board Member			Town Manager	
Present	Colleen Schieben	Ward 5	Present	David Austgen	
	Board Member			Town Attorney	

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes – March 21, 2023

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

2. NIES Pay Request No. 4 for the Krystal Oaks Elevated Water Tank payable to Dixon Engineering Inc. in the amount of \$3,000

Mr. Simstad reported this is for the specialized inspections for the elevated storage tank. Mr. Carnahan asked for Mr. Simstad to discuss what the service covers. Mr. Simstad reported it covers the weld inspections and the specialized preparation for the paint coating.

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

3. NIES Pay Request No. 4 for the West Side Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Project payable to LGS Plumbing, Inc., in the amount of \$89,314.96

Mr. Simstad reported this is for LGS and is a routine pay request. They are proceeding. Mr. Carnahan stated he had a phone conversation with Mr. Simstad and asked him to explain the multi-year project. Mr. Simstad stated this is the first phase of the interceptor. It begins at the flume and continues up towards Morse to 159th and will eventually end at Cline Avenue on 159th. Mr. Carnahan stated it is going to take four years to complete. Mr. Simstad stated yes, to get to essentially 151st and Parrish Avenue. Mr. Carnahan stated it is all gravity fed and there will be no lift station. Mr. Simstad stated that is the ideal design that started several years ago to eliminate lift stations in the western area and provide additional capacity. A brief discussion continued.

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

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4. NIES Pay Request No. 5 for the Utopia Water Main Replacement Project payable to Gatlin Plumbing & Heating, Inc., in the amount of \$416,525.00

Mr. Simstad reported this is a routine pay request for Gatlin Plumbing and Heating. They are scheduling the restoration with the work that needs to be done with the grass, curbs, concrete, and asphalt. They anticipate to be ahead of schedule and under budget. Mr. Recupito asked what is the schedule. Mr. Simstad stated they are working to schedule their restoration contract in the next couple of weeks. After that they will finish the concrete work and move towards the asphalt work. They expect it to be done mid-summer. A brief discussion continued on the water main project and restoration. Mr. Carnahan asked if this work was being funded with a grant. Mr. Salatas stated no. This project was funded with the American Rescue Plan Act monies.

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

5. NIES Pay Request No. 5 for the East Side Water Utility Elevated Water Storage Tank payable to Caldwell Tanks in the amount of \$358,493.40

Mr. Simstad explained this is pay request five for Caldwell. They are proceeding on the tank and moving forward with preparation for the coating process. Dixon is coordinating with the coating contractor for that work. Not only coating of the tank but the logo like the tank on the west side. Mr. Recupito asked about the schedule. Mr. Simstad stated they are projecting September 15th. That is what they are projecting to have the tower operational. A lengthy discussion occurred on punch list items and maintenance of the tower such as draining.

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

6. Wessler Agreement Sewer Plant Improvements

Mr. Salatas stated this is an agreement that came from the JMOB. There is work that needs to be done at the EQ basin including a liner and other operational work. This will help with efficiency and capacity. This agreement is to engage Wessler Engineering to do the engineering for the project and get them through bid. It is for \$457,000. It is split 50/50 with the Town of Lowell. The Town of Cedar Lake's commitment would be \$228,500. The Town of Lowell passed the agreement earlier this week, contingent on Cedar Lake passing the agreement. Mr. Salatas stated it has been vetted through both engineering and legal. Mr. Recupito asked what funds would be used. Mr. Salatas stated the sewer capital. Ms. Sandberg stated it is called WWTP Special, Fund 633. Mr. Carnahan stated he heard from a resident that Lowell and Cedar Lake haven't had meetings. Mr. Salatas stated that information had to have been old because the two have had meetings at least quarterly. A brief discussion continued.

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

7. Future Water Capacity Needs Planning Discussion

Mr. Salatas reported next month they will begin the first phase of the Morse Street Water Line Project. This will terminate at the northeast corner of the Town Grounds. It will come down Constitution Avenue. They are planning for a 12-inch water main, ductile

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iron pipe except for an area where they have to directionally bore under a creek. A brief discussion continued on the planned project and future phases.

8. Written Report

- a. Fund Report – Ms. Sandberg reported the cash and expenditure reports were previously emailed out.

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

- a. Engineer – NIES – No further reports.
- b. Director of Operations/Superintendent
 - i. Operation & Maintenance Report – No report.
- c. Town Attorney – No report.

10. JMOB Report – Mr. Salatas stated they are working to schedule a meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cheryl Parker, 7227 W. 136th Court, asked Mr. Simstad for clarification about the pipes at 155th and over to Cline. Mr. Simstad stated it is for sanitary sewer. Mrs. Parker asked if it is unincorporated how is the Town putting pipes through. Mr. Simstad stated it is within the Town's sanitary district. The incorporated areas are sometimes slightly smaller than utility districts. Mrs. Parker voiced concerns with the area the pipe goes through. Mr. Simstad stated those areas were previously part of the utility district. He stated it is a collection and conveyance system. A brief discussion continued.

Barb Orze, 10290 W. 138th Place, discussed looking into water tables and folks commenting about problems with wells and water pressure. She asked about whether there would be water available to take care of all the growth. She stated she has been unsuccessful in finding current information. She asked if there is an issue and will there be enough water. Mr. Simstad stated the Town has engaged Peerless to review that. He stated generally the municipal supplies are below the bedrock. He stated they could have the hydrogeologist that is working on it, write a recommendation. A brief discussion continued on the concern presented.

ADJOURNMENT President Recupito adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:05 PM.

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Richard Sharpe

Ralph Miller

Robert H. Carnahan

John Foreman

Julie Rivera

Nick Recupito

ATTEST:

Colleen Schieben

Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMC, CMC, CPFIM
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.