

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

May 21, 2024

**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*	Mary Joan Dickson	At-Large
	Board Member			Board Member	
Absent	Julie Rivera	Ward 2	Present	Richard Thiel	At-Large
	Board Member			Board Vice-President	
Present	Nick Recupito	Ward 3	Present	Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMC, CMC, CPFIM	
	Board President			Clerk-Treasurer	
Present	Chuck Becker	Ward 4	Present	Jeff Bunge	
	Board Member			Town Manager	
Absent	Greg Parker	Ward 5	Present	David Austgen	
	Board Member			Town Attorney	

**Present via Zoom at approximately 6:55PM.*

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes – April 16, 2024

A motion to accept and waive the reading of the minutes was made by Chuck Becker with second by Richard Thiel. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Becker – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Recupito – Yes. Vote 4 - 0.

2. Approval of Robins Nest Well House Booster Skid Replacement by Dahme Mechanical Industries, Inc. (This is the preferred company that Xylem works with)

Mr. Kubiak explained the proposal. He stated this was to install the new booster pump skid including all motors, controls, piping, and valves. This installer works with Xylem. They were recommended by Xylem. Mr. Carnahan stated the proposal was for a total amount of \$35,888. A brief discussion occurred on the price. Mr. Recupito asked if the proposal was still good even outside of the 30 days. Mr. Kubiak stated they were. Mr. Recupito asked Ms. Sandberg what account payment would come from. Ms. Sandberg recommended it be paid from the east side water monies from Lake County. She reported the cash was on hand to pay from that fund.

A motion to approve was made by Robert Carnahan with second by Chuck Becker. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Becker – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Recupito – Yes. Vote 4 - 0.

3. Future Water Capacity Needs Planning Discussion

Mr. Simstad stated the Westside report was submitted on March 18th. He stated if they have any questions, he would be more than happy to answer. He stated they have additional documents that were submitted from Dixon and other contractors for not only the tank options for ground storage but the high service pumps that would be recommended as well. Mr. Carnahan asked him to repeat himself from a previous meeting regarding the west side water and what they need to do. He spoke of a letter from 2022 sent by the Water Superintendent and that Nick and him never saw it. Mr. Simstad stated he could not speak to that but can speak of the results of the report provided on March 18th. The recommendation was to pursue additional production capacities and then over the next few years look at additional ground storage and high service pumps to supplement the existing capacity at Parrish and Havenwood. Those would provide the growth anticipated to be seen in the next eight to ten years. Mr. Carnahan stated they

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need more capacity over there. Mr. Simstad stated they do over the long-term. Mr. Carnahan stated he was told they needed two half million-gallon water towers and then Mr. Simstad told him they could have underground storage. Mr. Simstad reported it is ground storage with the base at the ground level. They do not have recommendations for two additional elevated storage tanks. He stated they recommended one, one-million-gallon ground storage tank and then high service pumps. Mr. Carnahan asked if that is the reason why they are getting rust in some of the water over on the west side. Mr. Simstad stated he is not an operator and cannot speak to that. He stated anytime you have groundwater and you chlorinate it, oxidation does occur. He stated he has a well himself.

4. Written Report

- a. Fund Report – Clerk-Treasurer Sandberg reported the cash and expenditure reports were sent out to them last Thursday.

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

- a. Engineer – NIES – Mr. Simstad reported LGS has completed a final repair on the west side sanitary sewer interceptor project 1. That was at the crossing under Morse. They will work on testing the line and once completed, they will submit it to IDEM as part of the requirement for the facility construction permit. They will then move on to restoration and provide the final record drawings or as-builts. Once reviewed, they will recommend final payment on the project. He reported all easements have been acquired for project 2. The design is completed. IDEM permits have not been submitted but are ready to be submitted as direction proceeds. A conceptual routing for project 3 has been submitted to the board as well as additional costs for projects 3A and 3B, should they choose to pursue those projects. They would move to final design once some recommendations are made based on the analysis for 3A and 3B. Mr. Carnahan asked if he needed recommendation from the board to submit to IDEM. Mr. Simstad stated yes for project 2. That is a financial decision. Mr. Carnahan asked when he would want that. Mr. Simstad stated they do not need a particular timeframe as the design is done. Nothing is changing with the ground or service area. It is a matter for the Council to decide whether or not to move forward. Mr. Recupito stated it was his understanding that grants were submitted for potential funding sources for the next phases. Mr. Thiel concurred. Mr. Thiel added that one was with Mrvan's Office. Those funds would not be available until 2025. They were looking more at phase 3. He stated he spoke with Camille at the IFA and they were discussing the possibility of project 2, 3A, and 3B. He stated that application is due in June. Mr. Simstad stated he has not spoke to Camille but they did submit the projected opinion of probable cost for project 2, 3A, and 3B. Mr. Becker asked if they filled out the application. Mr. Recupito stated it was his understanding they did both of them. Mr. Thiel stated he does not know if they are filled out. Mr. Carnahan asked Jeff if they were filled out. Mr. Bunge stated he does not believe they are. Mr. Thiel stated when he spoke with Neil, the stuff submitted to Camille, it was his understanding that a preliminary engineering report needed to be done first. Mr. Simstad stated they submitted to the Town the routing and the cost for project 2. That is completed in terms of design. The conceptual routing and cost for project 3A and 3B has not been submitted to the SRF/IFA. What they probably would require would be a PER (preliminary engineering report). That would be a large undertaking. You have to do the engineering as well as historical and archeological consultants that would need to be hired. Mr. Thiel stated it was his understanding the Kirsten submitted the one to Mrvan's Office timely. Mr. Recupito stated they have some funding currently but they are trying

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to lessen the burden on the ratepayers. Mr. Simstad reported on the east side water. The water tower site is complete. Restoration and inspections need to be done as well as the work by the fencing contractor. They are moving in a positive manner. Mr. Carnahan stated the tower is not functioning yet. Mr. Simstad stated it is not. It was filled and tested, bacteriologically, and pressure tested.

- b. Director of Operations/Superintendent
 - i. Operation & Maintenance Report – Mr. Kubiak reported the site is finally getting to completion. They will put in the fence this week. Progress is being made. A brief discussion continued.
- c. Town Attorney – No report.

6. Update/Discussion

- a. **Morse Street Water Line Extension** – Mr. Recupito stated there have been several inquiries from the public on where they are at with the project out here with the new stations. He stated he had a written report from Don Oliphant from Christopher Burke regarding the Paradise Cove Wells. He read the following into the record.

Paradise Cove Wells:

- An east side water report was provided to IDEM on 4/17. A response was received on 4/19 and additional follow-up information was provided to IDEM on 4/29.
- The IDEM inspection group had told the Town Water Dept that since the chlorination system was approved as part of the original 2008 permits that an additional permit was not needed. However, the IDEM permit group's stance was that since the previously approved chlorination was never installed at the wellhouse (Lighthouse Restaurant has their own treatment system), a new construction permit is now required.
- Since they wanted a new treatment construction permit, they now required updated water quality testing from each well to be appended to the permit. Town Water Dept took the new WQ samples +/-10 days ago and delivered them to Microbac. There were quite a few samples taken and we're still waiting on the results. IDEM said they wouldn't look at anything until they had those test results in-hand.
- In the meantime, we have the construction permit filled out the most we can. Once we get the WQ results, we'll package the treatment system information, Morse WM extension project, and upgrades to the Paradise Cove well pumps into one large construction permit submittal to submit to IDEM. As of yesterday, Town Water Dept is still waiting on results from Microbac.

7. **JMOB Report** – Mr. Thiel reported there was a JMOB meeting last Tuesday. They conducted a tour of the plant as well as the EQ basin. Most of the Council was present for the tour. A resident went along with them. Bob Groszek did the type of work as a career and was the question person for them. He helped them understand what was going on. Mr. Carnahan stated he is a resident. They were discussing the expansion of the plant at the meeting. They are currently at four million gallons per day. The expansion would be to eight million gallons per day. The projected cost is \$52 million. There is a public hearing at Lowell next Tuesday, the 28th at 7PM in Lowell. He encouraged everyone to watch it. They approved \$10,000 for the removal of trees in the EQ basin. He believes it was \$44,000 for the other repairs needed there. As of today, they still do not have the 2023 true-up. He stated he shared with Lowell the questions that still have not been answered that they are waiting on responses for. Mrs. Dickson encouraged everyone to attend the Lowell meeting and be aware of what is going on at the plant. Mr. Bunge reported on the April wastewater treatment plant report. He stated the WWTP received a total influent of 181.5 million gallons or an average of 6 million gallons per day. He stated the flow from Cedar Lake was 93.4 million gallons or an average of 3.11 million per day, which is 51.43% of the incoming flow to the plant. The flow from Lowell was

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88.2 million gallons or an average of 2.93 million gallons per day, which is 48.57% of the incoming flow. The WWTP discharged treated effluent of 180.8 million gallons or an average of just over six million gallons daily. Drain-back to the EQ basin is in progress. We received a total of 6.58 inches or rain for the month. The Acti-flo plant was utilized and treated 55 million gallons. The plant had one weekly mass violation due to RAS line plugged.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT President Recupito adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:07 PM.

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Robert Carnahan, Ward 1

Julie Rivera, Ward 2

Nick Recupito, Ward 3

Chuck Becker, Ward 4

Greg Parker, Ward 5

Mary Joan Dickson, At-Large

ATTEST:

Richard C Thiel Jr., At-Large

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.
- (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.