

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

**September 17, 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 Board Member	Ward 1	Present	Mary Joan Dickson Board Member	At-Large
Present	Julie Rivera Board Member	Ward 2	Present	Richard Thiel Board Vice-President	At-Large
Absent	Nick Recupito Board President	Ward 3	Present	Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMCA, CMC, CPFIM Clerk-Treasurer	
Present	Chuck Becker Board Member	Ward 4	Present	Jeff Bunge Town Manager	
Present	Greg Parker Board Member	Ward 5	Present	David Austgen Town Attorney	

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Approval of Minutes – August 20, 2024**

A motion to accept and waive the reading of the minutes was made by Greg Parker with second by Chuck Becker. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Parker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes. Vote 6 - 0.

**2. Approve NIES Engineering Pay Request, West Side Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Project 1 – Pay Request No. 10 in the amount of \$8,000.00**

Mr. Simstad reported this was for additional work requested of the contractor. It was for location marker flags for project one of the west side sanitary sewer interceptor. It was for protection. He cleared it with Tim and Tony. It allows the farmers to work their land but not get in the way of the project. Thirty-two separate locations had those installed.

A motion to approve was made by Richard Thiel with second by Chuck Becker. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Parker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes. Vote 6 - 0.

**3. Current Water Capacity Needs Planning Discussion**

Mr. Simstad stated they submitted a timeline of recommendations for the east side and the west side. He believes Nick shared that with the group. Any water production work completed between Ortman and Peerless either currently or prior, he is unaware of the status. He stated he knows staff is working on additional production facility locations to secure those for test wells moving forward.

**4. Written Report**

- a. Fund Report – Clerk Treasurer Sandberg reported the cash and expenditure reports were previously sent out.

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

- a. Engineer – NIES – Mr. Simstad reported on project two and project three of the west side sanitary sewer interceptor. The concepts have been sent. The design on project two is complete and permits are ready to be filed should they wish to proceed. All easements for project two have been acquired. For project one, a punch list is being worked through with the contractor. They have talked to the

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two farms. The punch list will be completed after the harvest. Mrs. Dickson asked about the funding for the projects. Ms. Sandberg reported phase one was paid for with the sewer development fees. Project two and three was always planned to be a bond issue. Mr. Carnahan stated phase one was approximately 7,000 feet. Phase two is going to be approximately 6,500. Mr. Simstad stated he believes that is correct. Mr. Carnahan stated phase two is going to have to be a bond as Jennifer indicated. He asked if Dave had to do some legals on phase two. Mr. Austgen stated no, the easements for phase two are complete.

- b. Director of Operations/Superintendent
  - i. Operation & Maintenance Report – Mr. Kubiak reported the pumps at Lift Station #13 have been replaced and repaired. New pipes from the pumps into the check valve pit are also complete.
- c. Town Attorney – No report.

**6. Update/Discussion**

- a. **Morse Street Water Line Extension** – Mr. Kubiak stated it is slated to be filled on Monday. They are finishing it up this week and they will fill and test it beginning on Monday. Mr. Carnahan asked if IDEM approved them to put water in the pipes and send it to the buildings. Mr. Kubiak stated no. The water main will be completed. The new extension will be from Paradise Cove will be filled and tested. They are close. Don sent the last of the things they requested to them. An iron test was required as well as chemical dose percentages. They also requested drawings of the way the pumphouse was configured. It was all sent to IDEM.
  - b. **West Side Sewer Interceptor Phase 2** – Previously discussed. Mr. Thiel asked about the bond discussed for equipment and possible road projects. He asked what could be lumped together or should stay different. Mr. Carnahan stated he believes these are different bonds. Ms. Sandberg stated since this is specifically a sewer project, they would look at issuing a sewer bond. One sewer bond is outstanding but it rolls off next year. Mr. Thiel asked about the timing. Ms. Sandberg stated she cannot answer those questions. They would need to engage financial consultants and bond counsel in order to get a better timeline together for execution of a sewer bond. Mr. Thiel discussed it being something they should start on sooner rather than later. Ms. Sandberg stated whenever they give the direction to go. Mr. Simstad added that they are probably looking at ninety to one hundred days to get the IDEM permit secured. After that they will begin the process of selecting dates for the bidding. He stated they are probably looking at early January/February before they could possibly award based on permitting and the bidding process. Mr. Thiel stated still construction would not be until April or May. Mr. Simstad stated yes.
  - c. **Lake County JICA for East Side Water Development \$650,000** – No report.
- 7. JMOB Report** – Mr. Thiel stated they received the true-up. It was later than usual. It was approximately \$512,000. He stated he did not have the total in front of him. Mr. Carnahan stated it was \$512,489. He stated they instructed Jen to have it in the docket to pay as per the agreement. A meeting was supposed to be scheduled for next week on the 24<sup>th</sup>. With the impasse going on, it may be held off as per legal.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Terry Broadhurst, 14513 Morse, asked about the south extension and 155<sup>th</sup> being the end point. He asked if it would stay on the west side of Morse or come back and forth. He asked if it was projected yet. Mr. Simstad stated project one is ending on the northeast corner of 159<sup>th</sup> and Cline. Project two would begin there, extend to the west, and come through the back of some properties with acquired easements. It will continue through the Creston area and public rights of way. It will go up to 155<sup>th</sup> and on the north side of 155<sup>th</sup> and extend west to the Town owned property. It is slightly east but also adjoining Parrish Avenue. Mr. Broadhurst asked if there were drawings available to the public. Mr. Simstad stated they are completed and he would imagine they are available to the public.

Cheryl Parker, 7227 W. 136<sup>th</sup> Court, asked about the Morse Street Water Extension and the \$5,000 being paid each month that the water line project is not completed. She asked if they will be able to get the project done. Mr. Kubiak stated as soon as the pressure test and line is filled then the work could commence. Mr. Carnahan stated the \$5,000 was not going to kick in until October. Mrs. Parker stated she thought it went into effect right away. Mrs. Dickson stated they are paying for it. Mr. Carnahan asked Jen if she knew that. Ms. Sandberg stated she would have to look at the pay request to see. A brief discussion continued.

**ADJOURNMENT** Mrs. Dickson adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:00 PM.

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Robert Carnahan, Ward 1

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Julie Rivera, Ward 2

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Nick Recupito, Ward 3

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Chuck Becker, Ward 4

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Greg Parker, Ward 5

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Mary Joan Dickson, At-Large

ATTEST:

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Richard C Thiel Jr., At-Large

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Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMCA, 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.