



**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the
Cedar Springs City Council**

**Monday, March 28, 2016
6:30 p.m.**

**Cedar Springs City Hall
66 S. Main St.
Cedar Springs Michigan**

1. The Meeting was Called to Order by Mayor **Gerald Hall** at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. <u>ROLL CALL:</u>	Mr. Daniel Clark	Present
	Mr. Perry Hopkins	Present
	Mrs. Molly Nixon	Excused
	Mrs. Rose Ellen Powell	Present
	Mr. Robert Truesdale	Excused
	Mrs. Pamela Conley, Mayor Pro Tem	Present
	Mr. Gerald Hall, Mayor	Present

Motion by Conley, supported by Hopkins, to excuse the absences of Nixon and Truesdale.

VOTE: 5 – 0 Motion Carried.

3. There were no public comments.

4. **Motion by Conley, supported by Clark, to adopt the agenda.**

VOTE: 5 – 0, Motion Carried.

5. Discussion Items:

A. 2016 – 17 Fiscal Year Budget:

Finance Director **Deb Brunett** reviewed the proposed budget with Councilors. In addition to the budget, she presented information regarding expenses paid for the Cedar Springs Library and Community Building Development Team projects; the fund balance; revenue funding sources; general fund interest income; the legal debt margin; estimated and projected property tax revenues and proposed water and sewer rates. She asked Councilors, for budgeting purposes, if they wanted to set a maximum amount to be spent on the Library and Community Building Development Team projects. It was the consensus of those present to set a limit of an additional \$10,000.00 for those expenses.

Projects included in the coming year's budget include the following:

- drain tiles in the cemetery.
- the City's portion of county upgrades for storm drains.
- a grant match for Trout Unlimited.
- an increase to the fund balance designation for turn out gear for the Fire Department.
- an increase to the fund balance designation for a county fire truck.
- an increase to the fund balance designation for a rescue vehicle for the Fire Department.
- a new voting machine.
- updating City ordinance books.
- a strategic/vision planning session.
- donations to the Historical Museum and Red Flannel Festival.
- an increase in the fund balance designation for future bridge work.
- replacing water meters.
- a new truck for the Department of Public Works.
- a 2 % increase for employees.

Projects not funded include the following:

- a Jaws of Life machine for the Fire Department.
- new street banners.
- new street signs.
- lighting additional street lights.
- designing a new logo.
- grant writing software.
- an underbody scraper for the Department of Public Works.
- a tractor for the Department of Public Works.
- a chipper for the Department of Public Works.

Other items discussed included raising water and sewer rates; painting crosswalks on Main Street and providing additional parking at the Maple and Second Street site.

B. There was no other business to come before the Council.

6. Council Comments:

Hopkins – wanted more money for the Downtown Development Authority so they could do projects.

Clark – thanked everyone for coming to the meeting; noted the Police Budget was up three percent instead of what had been expected.

Powell – police protection was going up slightly and thanked everyone for coming that evening.

Conley – thanked the Treasurer for all her hard work on the budget.

Hall – a lot of work goes into the budget that we don't see; we made a lot of ground work today; said he and the Mayor Pro Tem had received a request from the City Clerk regarding unused vacation time she had not been able to use before her anniversary date because of the extra workload and she asked permission to carry it over into the next year. Normally such a request would go to the City Manager; but as she was acting as the City Manager she did not want to make that call and asked the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem for their input. He said he had approved it.

7. The Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Linda Christensen, City Clerk

Gerald Hall, Mayor