



**SPECIAL MEETING
CEDAR SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL**

AGENDA

Thursday, July 15th, 2021

6:00 p.m. Meeting

**Cedar Springs Fire Station
38 North Second St.
Cedar Springs, Michigan**

1. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance.

2. <u>ROLL CALL:</u>	Ms. Lisa Atchison	_____
	Mrs. Pamela Conley, Mayor Pro Tem	_____
	Mr. Jerry Gross Sr.	_____
	Mrs. Molly Nixon	_____
	Ms. Rose Powell	_____
	Mrs. Renee Race	_____
	Mr. Gerald Hall, Mayor	_____

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS.

The Council welcomes and encourages the public to speak during the public comment and public hearing portions of the agenda. However, Council policy is to hear the public comment, not to act on the public comment at this time. Concerns brought before the Council during the Public Comment portion of the agenda will be referred to the City Manager for action. If, after communicating with the City Manager, no resolution is reached, the concern will be elevated to the Mayor and then eventually to the Council for action.

Those citizens wishing to speak on agenda and non-agenda items will be allowed a maximum of four minutes each to address their concerns. This is the only time during the Council meeting that citizen are allowed to address the Council. Please state your name and address for the record if you would like.

A. Special Meeting Public Notice

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Strategic Planning Session with Al Vanderberg and John Shay

B. Discussion on Recreation Plan update

6. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

7. ADJOURNMENT.



Public Notice
City of Cedar Springs

Special Meeting
Of the Cedar Springs City Council

Thursday, July 15
6:00 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss strategic planning for the City of Cedar Springs and any other business that may come before the Council.

38 N Second St.
Cedar Springs, Michigan

Rebecca Newland
City Clerk
616.696.1330

Posted: June 28, 2021 at 5:30pm



City Manager's Office

**Cedar Springs City Hall
66 S. Main St. PO Box 310
Cedar Springs, MI 49319**

07-12-21

RE Cedar Springs Recreation Plan 2022 Update

The City is currently operating under a 2017-2022 Recreation Plan that was entered into as a joint venture between the parties that were then members of the Cedar Springs Parks and Recreation Board, Algoma Twp., Cedar Springs Public Schools, Courtland Twp., Nelson Twp., Solon Twp. and the City. As I recall, the Parks and Rec Director and I were not satisfied with the quality of the Plan at that time and it has not gotten any better with age.

Now, with the number of changes that have occurred over the last several years, I think it is in the City's best interest in developing its own 5-year recreation plan, separate from the townships and school district. The City is experiencing significant growth in both population and economic development and the City Council has shown strong interest in reinvesting in the City's parks system for the enjoyment of its citizens. In order to best organize the goals for this reinvestment in the City's parks, we should investigate and adopt a recreation plan update which lays out this vision for the future.

One of the main reasons that we should start preparing a recreation plan update as soon as possible is because of the MI DNR Recreation Passport Grant that must be applied for by April 1st, 2022. A current local recreation plan is required in order to be eligible to apply for this grant. Also, the proposed grant project must appear on the recreation plan in order to be eligible. The Recreation Passport Grant program is for the "development of public recreation facilities, including both the development of new facilities or the renovation of old facilities." Grant funding is available up to \$150,000 for the grant, with a minimum of 25% local match. While application success under this program has been low over the last several years, the City has not received a passport grant in many years.

To move forward, we will need to accomplish a number of things over the next year:

1. The City Council will need to decide which project to focus on for potential grant money (splash pad, large play-structure, HOCS park development (natural playground), pickleball courts etc.).
2. The City will then have to hire a company or companies to put together plans for the grant project, the 5-year recreation plan update and then finally the application for the DNR grant itself.

The City has budgeted for this project and has already received 2 proposals to complete the work. We can also seek out additional proposals but these are both from respectable firms that are known

to City Hall staff and have a history of completing these types of projects and each are ready to go with no delay.

Following Council's decision on how and which project that they would like to proceed forward on, I would recommend that we either hire one of these firms or that we put out a quick request for quotes to complete this work as soon as possible.

I will try to better flesh out the proposed projects that Council can choose between if there isn't already strong consensus around one idea for the August Regular meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Womack".

Mike Womack City Manager
City of Cedar Springs
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manager@cityofcedarsprings.org

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