



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

Thursday, April 9, 2015

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

**Workshop
6:15 p.m.**

Members Present: Dan Clark, Perry Hopkins, Gerald Hall, Pamela Conley, Molly Nixon, Rose Ellen Powell, Robert Truesdale.

Also Present: City Manager Thad Taylor, City Clerk Linda Christensen, Fire Chief Marty Fraser, DPW Director Tom Stressman.

The City Manager reviewed agenda items with Councilors. Among the items discussed were: the upcoming budget workshop April 30; the Open Meetings Act training May 28 and proposed projects in the 2015-16 Fiscal Year Budget.

**Meeting
7:00 p.m.**

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

2. ROLL CALL:

Mr. Daniel Clark	Present
Mr. Perry Hopkins	Present
Mrs. Molly Nixon	Present
Mrs. Rose Ellen Powell	Present
Mr. Robert Truesdale	Present
Mrs. Pamela Conley, Mayor Pro Tem	Present
Mr. Gerald Hall, Mayor	Present

3. PUBLIC FORUM.

Shawn Kiphart, 1575 21 Mile Road, provided information regarding a break-in at the locker rooms at Skinner Field. There was no forced entry or damage, he reported; but stated the locks would be changed at the facility.

Kurt Mabie, Community Building Development Team member, said the group's site plan was nearing completion for the amphitheater, rain garden and boardwalk.

Mark Laws, 54 S. 1st St., thanked Kurt Mabie and the Community Building Development Team; was excited about what was going on.

Dave Ringler, 95 N. Main St., if all goes well, they should begin digging at the site next week.

Gary Nead, 135 S. Fifth St., thanked the police department for patrolling his street, looking for speeders.

4. There were no public hearings.
5. **Motion by Conley, supported by Nixon, to approve the agenda with the addition of Item J “Memo of Understanding” to New Business.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

6. **Motion by Clark, supported by Conley, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:**
 - A. **approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 12, 2015.**
 - B. **approval of the Checks Paid Prior #s 35787 – 37633 totaling \$217,418.03; the April Accounts Payable #s 37634 – 37649 totaling \$23,417.05 and Electronic Transfers totaling \$1,459.27. The total of all checks and transfers was \$242,294.35.**
 - C. **Resolution No. 2015 – 08, a resolution to appoint election inspectors for the May 5, 2015 Special Election.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

7. The following correspondence was offered:
 - A. a letter from Charter Communications.
 - B. the Right Place Newsletter,

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

- A. **Motion by Conley, supported by Hopkins, to approve a policy on allowable action of agenda items.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

- B. A meeting was scheduled for the coming week with Councilors **Powell, Hopkins** and the City Manager regarding language for a policy on how City Council videos are to be handled. Language is expected to be brought to the Council for the May meeting.
- C. A decision on reinstating the Council Finance Committee will be voted on at the May meeting.
- D. Discussion on waiving the police fees for the 2014 Red Flannel Festival bill: City Manager **Thad Taylor** explained that the Festival was not charged for dedicated police officers at the Grand Lodge as was stated in the bill received by the Festival. All police officers working at the time were patrol officers. While officers may have gone in and out of the beer tent; they were not

assigned to the venue as a part of their work detail. The invoice sent to the Festival was a template used in past years; but the Festival was not charged for dedicated officers at the beer tent, he explained.

Nixon stated she did not understand why the City was charging the RFF if there wasn't an agreement to provide police services.

Truesdale said he felt the City should pick up the bill in relation to what the Festival does for the businesses in town. We have money for everything else but the Red Flannel Festival, he said.

Powell said she had looked over previous year's bills and there was poor invoicing done over the years, she said. There should have been an agreement in place before the Festival was billed, she stated.

Conley said in the past there had been contracts and specific things were outlined regarding who was paying for services. There was an email that the City was not going to provide policing and a bill should not have been sent for that, she added.

Taylor again stated dedicated officers were not assigned to the Grand Lodge; but police services were provided by the City throughout the City during the Festival and that was what the Festival had been billed.

Motion by Truesdale, supported by Clark, to waive all the fees for the Red Flannel Festival in the amount of \$1,661.83.

VOTE: 5 – 2 (Hopkins, Nixon) Motion Carried.

E. **Rich Webb**, Zylatech, was present to answer questions regarding the City's computer system.

F. Mayoral Business Matters:

1. **Conley, Nixon and Clark** were appointed by the Mayor to a committee to negotiate a new contract with the Red Flannel Festival.
2. **Hall** appointed **Linda Nead** to the City's Zoning Board of Appeals.

9. NEW BUSINESS.

A. **Motion by Clark, supported by Hopkins, to approve Resolution No. 2015 – 09, a resolution in support of placing the Main Street Bridge Structure Number 5185 on the MDOT Local Agency Program Priority List.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

B. **Motion by Hopkins, supported by Nixon, to approve the placement of an informational sign on City-owned property conditional upon approval of where the sign is to be placed by the Department of Public Works.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

C. **Motion by Hopkins, supported by Conley, to approve the purchase of 20 trees from Great Lakes Landscaping in an amount not-to-exceed \$3,050.00.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

- D. **Motion by Hopkins, supported by Conley, to approve Resolution No. 2015 – 10, a resolution to authorize the issuance of Sanitary Sewer System Revenue and Revenue Refunding Bonds.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

- E, **Motion by Nixon, supported by Powell, to approve Resolution No. 2015 – 11, a resolution to authorize the issuance of Water Supply system Revenue Bonds.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

- F. **Motion by Nixon, supported by Hopkins, to approve the purchase of a 2002 bucket truck from Dan Herringa in an amount not-to-exceed \$10,500.00.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

- G. **Motion by Clark, supported by Nixon, to approve the purchase of a Warthog Sewer Jet Nozzle from Advanced World.com in an amount of \$1,398.00 plus shipping.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

- H. **Hopkins** informed the Council that he was President of the Chamber of Commerce and was involved with the Chamber's proposed Renaissance Faire. He asked if he should abstain from voting on the upcoming resolution naming the event a Community Event. He stated he would be operating a booth during the event.

Motion by Clark, supported by Powell to allow Perry Hopkins to vote on approving the Chamber of Commerce's Renaissance Faire as a Community Event.

VOTE: 6 (Hopkins did not vote) – 0, Motion Carried.

Motion by Nixon, supported by Clark, to approve Resolution No. 2015 – 12, a resolution approving the CS Chamber of Commerce's Renaissance Faire as a Community Event.

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

- I. **Motion by Hopkins, supported by Conley, to reverse the first denial referenced in Mr. Powley's April 2, 2015 Freedom of Information appeal and to affirm the denial of the second request.**

VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.

- J. By consensus Councilors agreed to place the Memo of Understanding between the City and the North Country Trail Association on the April 30, 2015 Special meeting agenda.

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

A. General Information and Special Projects discussed were the following:

- Sgt. Kelley was named Deputy of the Year by the Kent County Sheriff's Department.
- Special City Council Budget Workshop scheduled for April 30 at 6:30 p.m.
- The USDA project bid will be awarded at the April 30 meeting.
- The meeting with Display Pack and the other state and federal officials regarding the extension of West Street and possible funding sources went well.
- Solon Township Fire Study update.
- Tractor Supply outdoor display and storage.
- Open Meeting Act & Parliamentary Procedure training scheduled for May 28.
- Draft Budget was presented.

1. An updated on the status of City Council goals was presented.

B. Monthly Department Reports were presented by the following:

1. Department of Public Works.
 - a. Infrastructure Alternative's operational & maintenance report.
2. Police Department.
3. Fire Department.
4. City Clerk.
5. Finance Officer/Treasurer.
 - a. Cash Summary Report.
 - b. Revenue/Expenditure Report.
6. Code Enforcement Report.
7. Minutes from the following boards and commissions:
 - a. the March 3, 2015 Planning Commission meeting.
 - b. the February 23, 2015 CS Library Board meeting.

11. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Powell – thanked everyone for coming to the meeting; wished everyone a happy spring and to stay dry.

Conley – thanked everyone for the sign going by the flowing well; was thankful that we had water shooting out of the ground especially with the drought going on in California; Ronny Merlington would be thrilled with the new policy.

Hopkins – thanked everyone who was making the effort with the Community Building Development Team; is excited to see the site plan for what is going to go in; it is closer to getting done; it's not just in someone's head anymore; it's on paper.

Truesdale – concurred with what had been said.

Nixon - greatly enjoyed her first City Council meeting that was under three hours; thanked Tom Stressman for his words "under budget."

Hall – thanked everyone for being at the meeting; there were a lot of good things happening here.

12. The Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Linda Christensen, City Clerk

Gerald Hall, Mayor