



**Minutes of the Annual Reorganizational Meeting of the  
Cedar Springs City Council**

**Thursday, November 12, 2015  
Cedar Springs City Hall  
66 S. Main St.  
Cedar Springs, Michigan**

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

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

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

The City Manager reviewed agenda items with Councilmembers.

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

1. The Meeting was Called to Order by City Clerk **Linda Christensen** at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The City Clerk issued the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilor **Molly Nixon**.

The Clerk opened the floor for nominations for the office of Mayor.

**Motion by Pam Conley, supported by Rose Powell to nominate Gerald Hall.**

<b>VOTE:</b>	<b>Dan Clark</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Perry Hopkins</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Molly Nixon</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Rose Ellen Powell</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Robert Truesdale</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Pam Conley</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Gerald Hall</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

The Clerk issued the Oath of Office to **Hall**. The meeting was turned over to the newly elected Mayor.

**Hall** opened the floor for nominations for the office of Mayor Pro Tem.

**Motion by Clark, supported by Nixon, to nominate Conley.**

<b>VOTE:</b>	<b>Clark</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Hopkins</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Nixon</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Powell</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Truesdale</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Conley</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Hall</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

The Clerk issued the Oath of Office to **Conley**.

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

3. PUBLIC FORUM.

**Patricia Capek**, 100 E. Muskegon St., stated that this was the last meeting for City Manager, **Thad Taylor**. She wanted to thank him publically for all he had done for Cedar Springs. He had provided excellent leadership and she appreciated his service to the City.

**Mark Fankhauser**, 91 W. Muskegon St., wanted to thank **Thad Taylor** for the service he had provided. He should be remembered for the development he had brought into the city and he will be sorely missed. He hoped the council would seek out some at least equal to **Taylor's** stature.

**Kathy Bremmer**, 205 E. Maple St., the City was losing a great City Manager. Commented on Resolution 2015 – 31 on the agenda that evening which called for the city to pay for expenses related to the Community Building Development Team and Library building projects. She asked where the money was going to come from as they were not budgeted items. Comments were also made regarding the usefulness of Policy 12.

**Kurt Mabie**, Community Building Development Team, there were a lot of people downtown with the opening of the CS Brewing Company and that is what the CBDT wanted to continue with the building of the heart of downtown.

**Mark Laws**, 54 S. 1st St., thanked councilmembers for serving on the council; the Red Flannel Festival had received a first place award for marketing.

**Rose Powell**, presented a certificate of appreciation to the City for its contribution to the Red Flannel Festival and presented the newly framed red flannel poster to be hung at City hall.

4. **Motion by Hopkins, supported by Nixon, to open a Public Hearing on the conditional transfer of property located within Solon Township to the City of Cedar Springs.**

**Parcel Description: Being the northeast 10 acres of the NW ¼ Section 25 Solon Township T10R11W. Unit Control Parcel No. 41-02-25-300-001.**

**VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

The Public Hearing opened at 7:18 p.m.

1. City Manager **Thad Taylor** stated the City had received a request from The Brook to transfer 10 acres from Solon Township to the City for the purpose of receiving water and sanitary sewer services. The property was located in Phase II of the 425 Agreement the City has with Solon Township. Since the property has yet to be split to accommodate the sale of the property, **Taylor** recommended conditional approval of the request until such time as the deed has been recorded to create the land division. Once that is done, the parcel would have an address and the City could draft a resolution for approval by the Council and then to be sent to the State for final approval.
2. Public Comments:  
**Capek** asked if this would be a facility for retirement living.
3. **Motion by Conley, supported by Hopkins, to close the Public Hearing.**

**VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

The Public Hearing closed at 7:20 p.m.

5. **Motion by Clark, supported by Conley, to approve the agenda with the removal of Item 8A under Unfinished Business.**

**VOTE: 7 – 0 Motion Carried.**

6. **Motion by Hopkins, supported by Conley, to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:**
  - A. approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 8, 2015.
  - B. approval of the Checks Paid Prior #s 38168 – 38247 totaling \$760,729.52; the November Accounts Payable #s 38248 – 38265 totaling \$26,192.98 and Electronic Transfers totaling \$1,206.88. The total of all checks and transfers was \$788,129.38.

**VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

7. Correspondence included:
  - A. Right Place Newsletter.
  - B. a note from Gwen and Lyle Perry, Jr.
  - C. Rotary letter.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

- A. Removed from the agenda: Third Consideration: Council action on second amendment with Wolverine Skyhawk's Model Club.

B. There was no Mayoral Business.

9. NEW BUSINESS.

A. **Motion by Conley, supported by Hopkins, to Waive Policy No. 12 to act on the conditional transfer of property located within Solon Township to the City of Cedar Springs at first consideration.**

**VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

1. **Motion by Conley, supported by Hopkins, to approve the conditional transfer of property located within Solon Township to the City of Cedar Springs conditional upon a land division of the property and the deed to be recorded at Kent County.**

**Parcel Description: Being the Northeast 10 acres of the NW ¼ Section 25 Solon Township T10R11W.  
Unit Control Parcel No.: 41-02-25-300-001.**

**VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

B. **Motion by Hopkins, supported by Truesdale, to waive Policy No. 12 to act on Resolution No. 2015 – 32, a resolution authorizing a rezoning and Planned Unit Development application for a joint Community Building Development Team and Cedar Springs Public Library project at first consideration.**

**VOTE: 7 – 0 Motion Carried.**

1. **Motion by Conley, supported by Powell, to approve Resolution No. 2015 – 32, a resolution authorizing a rezoning and Planned Unit Development application for a joint Community Building Development Team and Cedar Springs Public Library project.**

**VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

C. **First Consideration: Local Officer's Compensation Committee's recommendation for Councilmember and Mayor annual salary.**

D. **Motion by Conley, supported by Clark, to waive Policy No. 12 to act on the appointment of an Interim City Manager at first consideration.**

**VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

1. **Motion by Conley, supported by Hopkins, to appoint Linda Christensen as Interim City Manager with an additional \$300.00 per week for each week served as Interim City Manager.**

**VOTE: 7 – 0, Motion Carried.**

E. **Discussion on conducting a search for a new City Manager: Taylor provided background and option he Michigan Municipal League offers on conducting City Manager searches.**

**Powell** asked if the City could afford to engage the MML for such a search. **Conley** suggested holding a meeting where the stake holders in the community list what they are looking for in a city manager and then matching the candidates to that list so that the list of attributes is tailored to the community.

**Nixon** suggested putting together a community profile and then engaging the MML for their services as a cost savings effort.

**Truesdale** suggested taking their time to find the right person.

**It was consensus of the Council to hold a special meeting 7:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19 for the Council to begin listing attributes for a new city manager with future meetings for the public to list their qualifications.**

10. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT.

A. General Information and Special Projects included the following:

- Resignation of the Code Enforcement Officer.
- Extended medical leave for DPW Employee Bill LaRose.

B. Monthly Department Reports were offered 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 Officer.
7. Minutes from the following boards and commissions were offered:
  - a. the October 6, 2015 Election Commission Meeting.
  - b. the October 6, 2015 Regular and the October 19, 2015 Special Planning Commission meetings.
  - c. the October 28, 2015 Local Officer's Compensation Committee meeting.
  - d. the September 28, 2015 Library Board Meeting.
  - e. the September 8, 2015 CS Area Parks & Recreation Board meeting and the October 5, 2015 Director's Report.

11. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

**Clark** – White Creek Lumber seemed to be a meeting place for residents on Saturday mornings. He had heard positive comments from the community. Wished **Thad** well in his new job.

**Powell** – Good luck **Thad**; happy with the progress being made with the Library and Community Building Development Team.

**Conley** - Was the only one on the Council when **Thad** was hired; he has done great things for the community.

**Nixon** – Wished **Thad** well; thanked the people who had come out to vote in the election.

**Hopkins** – Thanked **Thad** for everything he had done; there were a lot of things happening in town; he will miss him and wished him good luck.

City Clerk **Linda Christensen** asked to speak and announced her plans to retire sometime after March 31, 2016.

**Hall** – Thanked **Thad** for everything he had done; there were a lot of things happening in town; we will miss you and good luck.

12. The Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Linda Christensen, City Clerk

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Gerald Hall, Mayor