



**REGULAR MEETING
CEDAR SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

Thursday, January 14, 2021

7:00 p.m. Meeting

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

1. **Hall** called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

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 citizens are allowed to address the Council. Please state your name and address for the record if you would like.

Donna Clark thanked the DPW for the plowing service at the library and the roof repair from North West Kent Mechanical. She reported that their Christmas goodie bag

giveaway, Zoom with Santa, and nursing home cards were very successful. She also reported that Kent District Library borrows increased from 300 borrows per month to 1,500 borrows per month.

Ryan Gorby inquired how the City ensures people have food during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Rose Powell reminded the public of the Versiti Blood drive on the third Tuesday of the month at the United Methodist Church. She reported that the drive does free COVID-19 antibody screening for all donors.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

None.

5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA.

Motion by **Conley** seconded by **Nixon** to adopt the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

7-0

Motion Carried.

6. CONSENT AGENDA.

Councilmembers may request that any or all items be removed from the Consent Agenda. A motion is then in order to adopt all items not removed from the Consent Agenda. Requesting the removal of an item from the Consent Agenda is a prerogative afforded each councilmember and does not require the support of other councilmembers.

A. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting December 10, 2020.

B. Approval of the Checks Paid Prior #s 43720 thru 43834 totaling \$767,006.20 and Electronic Transfers totaling \$3,038.52. The total of all checks and transfers is \$774,456.66.

C. Motion to approve Resolution 2021-01 A Resolution To Collect 100% Of The Kent Intermediate School District Property Tax In The Summer Of 2021 As Requested Pursuant To Act 451, Public Acts Of Michigan, 1976, As Amended.

D. Motion to approve Resolution 2021-02 A Resolution To Collect 100 % Of The Grand Rapids Community College School District Property Tax In The Summer Of 2021 As Requested Pursuant To Section 144 Of The Community College Act Of 1966, As Amended, And Part 26 Of The School Code Of 1976, As Amended.

E. Motion to approve Resolution 2021 – 03 A Resolution To Collect 100 % Of The Cedar Springs Public Schools Imposed Summer Property Tax Levy For 2021.

F. Motion to waive Sandwich Board Sign and Sidewalk Display fee for 2021.

- G. Motion to appoint Jason Merlington to the Planning Commission (2020-2022).
- H. Motion to approve of the Fishbeck Professional Services Agreement Amendment dated December 7, 2020.
- I. Motion to approve the purchase and installation of a new rooftop furnace at City Hall from Northwest Kent Mechanical Co. in an amount not to exceed \$12,424.00
- J. Motion to appoint Tom Wilkes to the Downtown Development Authority (2021-2024).
- K. Motion to approve the Kent County Urban County Community Development Building Grant Cooperative Agreement and authorize the City Manager to sign it on behalf of the City.
- L. Motion to approve Resolution 2021-04 Resolution Authorizing A Resident Taxpayer To File A Protest Before The Board Of Review By Letter Without A Personal Appearance.

Motion by **Race** seconded by **Atchison** to adopt the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote **7-0** **Motion Carried.**

7. ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Motion to approve 233 S Main Rezoning Request from R1 to B3.

Womack reviewed the request.

Motion by **Powell** seconded by **Conley** to approve 233 S Main Rezoning Request from R1 to B3.

Roll Call Vote **7-0** **Motion Carried.**

- B. Motion to approve Resolution 2021-04 A Resolution To Revise The 2020 Fees And Charges For Municipal Services

Powell thought that it was time that the Planning Commission started to get paid for their time. **Gross** clarified that the resolution included special meetings. **Atchison** remarked that she served on the Planning Commission for many years and they need some kind of compensation. **Conley** reported that her husband serves on the Planning Commission and that they do spend a large amount of time serving the board. **Nixon** reported that her husband also serves on the board, but this is a decision that would be best for the community.

Motion by **Powell** seconded by **Atchison** to approve Resolution 2021-04 A Resolution To Revise The 2020 Fees And Charges For Municipal Services.

Hall abstained from the vote.

Roll Call Vote

6-1(Hall)-0

Motion Carried.

- C. Motion to approve Library Lease Agreement.
 - a. Library Services Agreement.
 - b. Cedar Springs Public Library PowerPoint

Motion by **Race** seconded by **Conley** to approve Library Lease Agreement as presented.

Roll Call Vote

7-0

Motion Carried.

- D. Motion to approve paying up to \$7,500 for surveying work to be completed by the City Engineer Fishbeck.

Womack remarked that the item was not budgeted for, but is necessary to begin working on some long-term projects including East Ash parcel addition to Legacy Park, a municipal well on the adjoining parcel on the end of East Ash, and a survey for a Cherry St extension. **Gross** asked if a new water tower could go on the large parcel at the end of East Ash. **LaRose** responded that they are looking for potential spots for a new water tower in the HC district or at the school because a new water tower requires a 12 inch main.

Motion by **Conley** seconded by **Nixon** to approve paying up to \$7,500 for surveying work to be completed by the City Engineer Fishbeck.

Roll Call Vote

7-0

Motion Carried.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Fire Inspection Services Agreement

Conley requested information on the cost/amount of training it would take to train a Cedar Springs Fire Department employee to do the task. **Womack** explained that plan for the agreement is to only do fire inspection on new site plans and new buildings for one to two years and applicants would pay the inspection fee. Then 2-3 years all commercial buildings should be inspected for potential improvements.

Motion by **Gross** to move the item to an action item.
Gross withdrew his motion.

Straw Poll if City should pursue a Fire Inspection Service.

(7) Yes- Atchison, Conley, Gross, Nixon, Powell, Race, and Hall
(0) No- None.

- B. Social Districts
 - a. Rockford Social District

- b. LARA Social District info
- c. Cedar Springs Social District map DRAFT

Race reported that Rockford has a great setup, but their streets are set up very differently than at the City's. **Gross** reported that only two businesses benefit from this proposal. He expressed concerns with having alcohol during events at the Heart of Cedar Springs because he wanted to keep them family friendly environment. **Hall** explained that city road network just doesn't work for a project like this.

Straw Poll if City should pursue Social Districts.

(4) Yes- Atchison, Conley, Powell, and Race

(3) No- Gross, Nixon Hall

C. Municipal Civil Infractions

- a. (current law) Sec. 1-14 General penalty for municipal civil infractions.
- b. Draft update ordinance to Sec. 1-14

Gross questioned what kinds of items go to the judge versus the magistrate. **Powell** expressed that she thought the fees needed to be updated.

D. Water and Sewer automatic rate increases

- a. DRAFT Ordinance amendments of Sec. 38-90 et seq.
- b. DRAFT Ordinance amendments of Sec. 38-163 et seq

Womack explained that these proposals are for an automatic water/sewer rate increase of 2% or the rate of Midwest rate of inflation. **Conley** felt that it was necessary for continued increases to support the existing system.

Motion by **Gross** to move the water and sewer automatic rate increase to an action item.

Gross withdrew his motion.

9. COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Perry Hopkins DDA Resignation Letter
- B. Fire Station Progress Report
- C. HCD Plan Public Notice
- D. Public Library Board Meeting Minutes
 - a. October 2020 Minutes
 - b. November 2020 Minutes
- E. Local State of Emergency

F. Free Public WIFI at Morley Park and Heart of Cedar Springs

G. 2020 City Property Appraisal

10. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. City Manager.

B. Department of Public Works.

a. Infrastructure Alternative's operational and maintenance report.

C. Police Department

D. Fire Department.

E. City Clerk.

F. Finance Director/Treasurer.

a. Cash Summary Report.

b. Revenue/Expenditure Report.

c. Balance Sheet

G. Code Enforcement.

H. Building Inspection.

I. Board and Commission Minutes:

a.

11. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Conley is very excited about the Fire Station.

Atchison thanked city workers for their hard work and is enjoying seeing the progress on the new fire station.

Gross thanked staff for their work and thought that some members of the board needed to take some additional time to review the packet before the meeting. He was glad to see the Scouts at the meeting and wished them good luck in earning their badges.

Powell thanked the voters for the 839 votes she received and reminded everyone to try to give blood.

Race thanked the city employees and is excited for new planning commission members. She wished everyone a happy 2021.

Hall thanked everyone for the good discussion and thanked staff.

12. ADJOURNMENT.

Hall adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

