



**SPECIAL MEETING
CEDAR SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

Thursday, March 18, 2021

6:00 p.m. Meeting

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

1. Mayor **Hall** called the meeting to order at 6:01pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. ROLL CALL:

	Ms. Lisa Atchison	<u>Present-6:08pm</u>
	Mrs. Pamela Conley, Mayor Pro Tem	<u>Zoom Cedar Springs, MI-Present- 6:16pm</u>
	Mr. Jerry Gross Sr.	<u>Present</u>
	Mrs. Molly Nixon	<u>Absent</u>
	Ms. Rose Powell	<u>Present</u>
	Mrs. Renee Race	<u>Zoom- Cedar Springs, MI-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.

None.

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

None.

5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA.

Motion by **Gross** seconded by **Race** to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

4-0

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. Motion to approve of the KENT COUNTY INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR COUNTY DESIGNATED ASSESSOR and direct the Mayor to sign that agreement on the City's behalf.

- a. Laurie Spencer Biography
- b. What is Property Assessing Reform?

B. Motion to approve the purchase of furniture for the new fire station building in an amount not to exceed \$27,776.00 and direct the city manager to make that purchase.

Motion by **Gross** seconded by **Race** to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote

4-0

Motion Carried.

7. ACTION ITEMS:

None.

Atchison arrived at 6:08pm.

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Budget Workshop 21-22 Fiscal Year

Conley arrived at 6:16pm.

Falcon reviewed the proposed budget.

Millage Rates proposed for 21-22 are 64.2898 for Non Homestead and 46.3726 Homestead and an average residential taxable value at \$56,550. The average

homestead property in the City of Cedar Springs is expected to pay approximately \$3,636 annually.

General Fund has consistently added funds since 2014/2015. The cumulative total of the General Fund is at \$819,359.

Capital Improvement Plan for 2021-2022 includes new fire truck bond payment payback, 2026 used county fire engine, light medical response vehicle, 2009 fire engine, 22 sets of fire department turnout gear, repave B&B parking lot, City Hall generator, City Hall roof, update master/recreation plan, storm drain bond payment, playground improvements, and two major and local street projects, several water, sewer, and equipment fund projects.

General fund is expected to bring in \$2,300,385 in revenue. Notable items listed below.

- City Council added a \$2,500 for strategic planning sessions.
- City Manager added \$6,00 for an intern.
- Board of Review added \$500 for required training.
- General Administration overall reduced to 19/20 levels.
- City Building and Grounds had added expenses of \$1,500 for City WIFI parks, paving B&B parking lot, \$25,000 generator, and \$40,000 roof.
- Police Department that is contracted with Kent County Sheriff Department. Added \$43,000 for Liability payment for previous MERS retirement.
- Fire Department is largely estimated because of the unknown costs with the new fire station. **Gross** suggested adding some training funds for high rise training.
- Planning and Zoning added the \$50 per meeting totaling \$4,200. Added costs include \$20,000 for a master/recreation plan.
- Community Promotion added \$1,000 for historical photos. **Hall** expressed that he would like to see the Red Flannel Festival line item capped at a certain amount because it has grown each year.
- Debt service is new for the Drain Assessment Payment and added \$53,000.
- Transfer Out includes \$5,000 sidewalk plans, General obligation Bonds for two Choice One payments, and the Fire Station.

Major Street Fund revenue comes from ACT 51 funds. 75% of the gas and wight tax from the sale of fuel received go to the major street fund. The major street fund balance is \$475,600. It is proposed to transfer \$58,000 from the fund balance to complete the proposed projects.

Local Street Fund revenue comes from ACT 51 funds. 25% of the gas and wight tax from the sale of fuel received go to the local street fund. The local street fund balance is \$250,000. It is proposed to transfer \$125,000 from the fund balance to complete the proposed projects.

Sewer Fund has a lot of depreciation and it must be budgeted for (\$203,000). There is 1.3 million in the fund balance and it is proposed to transfer \$80,000 from fund balance.

Water Fund will be putting \$40,305 into fund balance.

9. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Budget Workshop public notice

10. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

None.

11. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Atchison appreciated all the work on the budget and was thankful that it is easy to understand.

Conley remarked that the budget is very understandable.

Gross appreciated the budget presentation and thought that the council might consider putting some money aside for a splash pad.

Powell thanked everyone for their work on the budget and is glad that the staff can be trusted.

Race really appreciated all the time and work that went into the budget.

Hall understands what it takes to create the budget and he appreciates all the work put into it. He remarked that the Fire Department budget will be difficult because of the unknowns of the new station. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT.

Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Rebecca Johnson, City Clerk

Gerald Hall, Mayor