



**SPECIAL MEETING  
CEDAR SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, March 17, 2022**

**6:00 p.m. Meeting and Workshop**

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

1. **Conley** called the meeting to order at 6:04pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. ROLL CALL:

Ms. Lisa Atchison	<u>Present</u>
Mr. Jerry Gross Sr.	<u>Present</u>
Ms. Ashley Hamel	<u>Arrived at 7:08pm</u>
Mrs. Molly Nixon, Mayor Pro Tem	<u>Zoom at 6:51pm</u>
Ms. Rose Powell	<u>Arrived at 6:48pm</u>
Mrs. Renee Race	<u>Present</u>
Mrs. Pamela Conley, 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.*



General fund is expected to bring in \$2,352,185 in revenue and an estimated \$2,702,535 in expenses. Notable items listed below.

- City Manager added \$50,000 for an assistant City Manager that may be shared with Sparta.
- Marijuana Application/license fees are an estimated revenue of \$144,000.
- Slight contract increases for the City Assessor and Kent County Sherriff's Department.

#### **Powell arrived in person at 6:48pm**

- Board of Review has a proposed pay increase from \$10 to \$12 hourly.
- City Building Grounds has budgeted for Turfs-r-us to mow and trim the library. Also budgeted a \$70,000 expense for a new roof at City Hall.

#### **Nixon arrived via Zoom at 6:51pm**

- Fire Department shows an increase in utilities and insurance for the new building.
- Master Plan update is not included in the budget, but will be budgeted for in the future.
- It is proposed to remove the gravel driveway at Morley Park.

#### **Hamel arrived in person at 7:08pm**

Major Street Fund revenue comes from ACT 51 funds. 75% of the gas and wight tax from the sale of fuel received goes to the major street fund. The major street fund balance is \$508,110. It is proposed to transfer \$22,420 into the fund balance.

Local Street Fund revenue comes from ACT 51 funds. 25% of the gas and wight tax from the sale of fuel received goes to the local street fund. The local street fund balance is \$286,339. It is proposed to transfer \$120,325 from the fund balance to complete the proposed projects.

Equipment Fund is budgeting for a new wing/box for the Sterling Plow Truck. It is estimated that \$80,125 will be transferred from the fund balance to cover the expense.

Downtown Development Fund is expected to see an increase in revenue of approximately \$21,417 due to new development and improvements in the district. The City Manager has budgeted \$10,000 for an Assistant City Manager to assist with the functions of the Downtown Development Authority.

Library Fund is expecting to exceed their budget by approximately \$21,000. The Library Board is considering increasing the millage rate to the maximum amount permitted. If the maximum millage rate is levied its estimated revenue is approximately \$30,000.

Sewer Fund has a lot of depreciation that must be budgeted for (\$200,000). There is 1.7 million in the fund balance and it is proposed to transfer \$40,245 from fund

balance. City Council may also consider increasing the rates. The rate of inflation would permit an increase of up to 7.9%.

Water Fund is estimated to put \$40,680 into fund balance.

7. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

**Powell** apologized to the board for being late. She wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

**Gross** remarked that the budget is extremely important and as much as it hurts to spend money it is necessary.

**Race** thanked the Finance Director for the fun budget. She loved the pictures.

**Nixon** thanked the Finance Director for an easy to read budget.

**Hamel** reported that the Finance Director did an amazing job explaining the budget.

**Conley** thanked the Finance Director for a phenomenal budget presentation. She reported that the budget is a reflection of what the City Council values and it should be an expression of what the community values.

8. ADJOURNMENT.

**Conley** adjourned the meeting at 8:15pm.

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**Rebecca Johnson, City Clerk**

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**Pam Conley, Mayor**