

TOWN COUNCIL OF LEO-CEDARVILLE
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 17, 2009

ATTENDANCE:

Paul Steffens – Council President
John Clendenen – Vice President
John Eastes
Gordon Liechty, Jr.
Michael Young

Pamela Spannuth – Clerk-Treasurer, Peggy Garton – Town Administrator, Cindy Kimm – Park Board President, Jim Lauer – Town Engineer, Tim Richards – Stormwater Utility Board Member

7:00 – Mr. Steffens opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA – The council voted to unanimously accept the agenda with flexibility.

PARK BOARD UPDATES – Park board president, Cindy Kimm, was present at the meeting as requested. She provided the council with an update of what the park board has accomplished over the past year as well as the board's future goals. The board is currently working on master planning as well as determining what upgrades and large maintenance items are needed at the Imagination Station. Mr. Clendenen asked if the park board is interested in a restroom facility to be located at Riverside Gardens. She stated that there is currently a restroom plan presented but due to the expensive nature of the project, it is outside their funding mechanisms at this time. A restroom would have to be paid for by other funds under the control of the town council. Mr. Clendenen encouraged the board to formally seek assistance from the town council. Ms. Kimm stated that she assumed that was already under consideration on the town's capital improvement plan, but would be willing to have the board formally request funding assistance from the council. The initial estimate for this restroom is \$125,000.00.

Mr. Clendenen discussed the topic of the maintenance department having to share resources with the parks department. Mr. Clendenen did not support the purchase of the Mule, but expressed that this piece of equipment needs to be utilized by the parks department. Discussion ensued about the initial purchase and intended purpose of this piece of equipment. Ms. Kimm discussed the significant amount of money that was spent on fertilizer on park grounds last year and that the park board is interested in exploring other means to establish the grass this year; that is the reason that the parks department does not want to fund the purchase of a fertilizer spreader. Mr. Clendenen stated that a piece of equipment needs to be obtained that would be useful for fertilizer and salt application as fertilizer will continue to be applied on other town property. He expressed his appreciation for the service that the park board is performing. Mr. Clendenen further stated that the employee should not be expected to use his personal property to maintain town grounds and the Mule will replace the use of the employees ATV. Discussion ensued relating to how equipment should be funded. The park board understands that

when the park is using town equipment, they should share in the cost of the maintenance. Mr. Liechty expressed his apology to the parks department for not consulting them first. Ms. Kimm acknowledged that there were good intentions behind the purchase of this piece of equipment.

STORMWATER UTILITY DISCUSSION – Mr. Richards was present to update the council on the status of several outstanding maintenance projects. He passed on to the council a request by a local church for a credit for their integrated drainage system on their property. The only entity eligible for a credit listed on the ordinance under “not for profit” is cemetery. A representative from a local church will be requesting that churches are included under this not for profit designation within the ordinance. He also asked for direction from the town council as to the intended purpose of the revenue received by the storm water utility, as the existing rate does not produce enough revenue for any significant capital projects. He recommended that storm water utility capital projects should be on the towns capital projects list for collaboration purposes between the boards. He also brought up the severity of the flooding on Gerig Road. Discussion ensued about the details of the flooding and the difficulty being encountered in determining the actual cause of the problems. Mr. Eastes asked if a lift station would be an option; Mr. Lauer stated that it would be cost prohibitive. Mr. Lauer spoke about the reason why finding the actual source of this problem is so difficult. He said that he could have a more definite answer within 60 days. The engineering estimate for more a detailed inspection is approximately \$1,500.00. Mr. Clendenen asked if the storm drainpipe that is planned for the Manning Street improvement could be tied into this improvement. Mr. Lauer feels that the proposed line for Manning would have to be rerouted. He expressed concern that a lot of this work would primarily be within private property and easements would need to be established. The idea of a tap fee to be imposed on developers was mentioned to help assist in the funding of such a system. Mr. Liechty expressed his concern that the proposed major tile would not alleviate either problem on Gerig Road.

Mr. Clendenen stated that the primary focus of the utility is to be in compliance with Federal and State mandates. After any mandates are met, the utility should focus on the maintenance of existing storm drain systems and master planning. Remaining funds should be saved for larger projects. He suggested that the state be approached for stimulus money for the two storm drain projects that will be required as a result of the Indiana Department of Transportation Amstutz Road / SR 1 project. Mr. Liechty stated that the storm water utility should publicize what projects have completed, as it would be helpful for people to see what the funds are being used for. Mr. Eastes moved to hire Schnelker Engineering to come up with a specific plan for all of the known problems on Gerig Road. Mr. Young seconded the motion. Ms. Spannuth recommended that a resolution or policy be adopted stating the priorities for the current revenue generated by the storm water rate as well as clearly defining the collaborative relationship between the storm water utility and town council. Motion passed by unanimous vote. Mr. Eastes urged the storm water utility continue to collaborate with the town council on projects outside their realm of funding. He encouraged the storm water utility board to compile a list of proposed projects, priorities included, along with rough cost estimates for the purpose of being available for any stimulus dollars. Mr. Young complimented Mr. Richards for his service on the storm water utility board.

SIDEWALK/TRAIL PROPOSAL – Mr. Young presented the engineers proposal for running a trail from the end of Trading Post Road to Gerig Road along the outer edge of Pioneer Village. He presented a document listing the advantages of running the walkway at this location. Mr. Young listed the following statements:

(1) It's the easiest way of connecting Leo to Cedarville for pedestrians because it is in a low traffic area and homes will be on the east side of walkway as a safety issue. Also there is very little blockage in constructing walkway since there are no buildings. (2) Only one property owner to negotiate in obtaining land for walkway. (3) May help flooding issue on Gerig Road with storm drains added along walkway. (4) Less costly to construct in comparison to other areas such as State Road 1 that has many property owners and the State to contend with. Not to mention the high traffic safety issue. (5) Leo parents with children in strollers can leave automobiles home and allow for more parking spaces to become available at Cedarville Park. (6) Next phase south from Gerig to Cedarville Park will continue in a low traffic area. (7) After completion, Cedarville residents will finally have a sidewalk and be able to walk to the bank, drug store, town hall, etc.

He stated that, according to retired senator Dick Worman, there might be Department of Natural Resources funds available to assist in this project. Mr. Young is seeking council support in beginning the process of establishing this trail. Mr. Lauer clarified that the lots in the Cedarville area were not planned with sidewalks and the lot prices were cheaper, whereas the newer subdivisions have sidewalks that were funded by the property owners. Mr. Lauer further stated that the public might view the restroom facility at Riverside Gardens Park to be a higher priority. The DNR money is available only for projects within their master plan. Mr. Lauer feels that because the proposed trail isn't "contiguous" with the other trails that it won't qualify for funding assistance. Ms. Garton urged that the whole sidewalk plan throughout the town be taken into consideration along with this proposed walkway. Mr. Clendenen recommended that public support be sought prior to any property purchase. 'Safe routes to school' funding was discussed as another option. Discussion ensued about the areas in town where school kids walk along the streets to get to school. Ms. Kimm recommended that funds should be used first to fill in the blanks within the existing sidewalk system before this trail would be installed. Mr. Young feels that the people in Cedarville would like a way to walk north to the amenities such as CVS, etc. Mr. Eastes stated that if Mr. Worman is able to assist in obtaining funds outside of the Department of Natural Resources five-year plan, that Mr. Worman should present the source of funding to the council. Mr. Liechty added that there are many areas within the town that require funds and that the council really needs to spend time developing a capital master plan. Even further, master planning within each category such as sidewalks, streets and storm water improvements, would be an important breakdown within the whole master plan. Mr. Steffens agreed that significant community support is necessary in order to move such a trail up on the priority list. Ms. Garton suggested that community input on this topic be sought via a mailing within the midyear storm water utility bill. Ms. Spannuth urged Mr. Young to obtain as much information as possible on the proposed trail but cautioned that others in the community should not be charged with representing the council. Mr. Eastes agreed that additional information should be sought regarding funding sources. Mr. Steffens

urged that a committee be put together with community representatives from each and all areas within the town including a representative from the school. Mr. Clendenen further added that when the community is involved with planning projects, that community support comes naturally. Mr. Steffens along with Ms. Garton and Mr. Young will put together a sidewalk committee.

BOBCAT TRADEOUT AGREEMENT – Ms. Garton presented the Bobcat trade out agreement for approval. Mr. Eastes moved to approve the bobcat agreement for the sum of \$1,500.00. Mr. Clendenen seconded; motion passed unanimously.

NOISE ORDINANCE 2009-01 - Mr. Eastes moved to forego the complete reading of the newest revised noise ordinance. Mr. Clendenen seconded. The motion passed unanimously. This ordinance will be posted on the website as well as published in the Courier prior to adoption.

BRIDGE TASK FORCE – Mr. Clendenen discussed the letter dated November 20, 2008 from the Allen County Commissioners regarding the bridge funding. This will be on the next agenda for further discussion.

VOUCHERS – The February 17, 2009 line item voucher form was approved via signatures.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

PAUL STEFFENS
Council President

PAMELA SPANNUTH
Clerk-Treasurer