



TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Cedar Lake Town Hall, 7408 Constitution Avenue
October 2, 2025, at 5:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Rodriguez called the Park Board Public Meeting to order on Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 5:30 pm, with its members attending on-site. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Paul Rodriguez, President; David Jostes, Vice-President; Gayle Brannon, Member and Greg Marquardt, Member. A quorum was attained.

Also present: Julie Rivera Town Council Liaison; David Austgen, Town Attorney; Mindi Ray, Parks & Recreation Superintendent; Greg Wiesemann, Recreation Coordinator; Sharon D'Apice, Administrative Assistant; and Josh Banhart, Maintenance Foreman.

ABSENT: Benjamin Eldridge, Town Manager

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Minutes** September 4th Meeting Minutes
2. **Claims:** Parks & Rec General Fund: \$11,533.70; Park Impact Fee Fund: \$-; Parks & Rec Non-Reverting Fund: \$2,708.22; Clubhouse Non-Reverting Fund: \$3,363.60; Total Expenditures: \$17,605.22
3. **Donations:** Whites Concrete donated 4 large bags of candy for Trunk or Treat; Eenigenburg Exteriors donated 2 large bags of candy for Trunk or Treat; Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #2529 donated \$100 for Trunk or Treat; Cedar Lake Park Foundation donated 3 straw bales, 4 pumpkins and 3 mums; Nick Yukon donated \$1,072.02 for 2 Maple Sun Valley Trees; Gene & Pat Peto donated 5 insulated mugs for Parks Department Personnel; and Greg Marquardt donated \$50 for the Kiwanis Dog Park Costume Contest at the Cedar Lake Farmers Market.

Mr. Jostes made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Mr. Marquardt seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

Mr. Marquardt Aye

Ms. Brannon Aye

Mr. Jostes Aye

Mr. Rodriguez Aye

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OLD BUSINESS:

1. Founders Creek Trail

Mr. Austgen updated the board that there are no new updates. Mrs. Ray stated that the preliminary engineering has not yet begun.

Mr. Marquardt made a motion to defer the Founders Creek Trail to the November meeting and Mr. Jostes seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

Mr. Marquardt Aye

Ms. Brannon Aye

Mr. Jostes Aye

Mr. Rodriguez Aye

2. Park Maintenance Shop

Mrs. Ray updated the board that once the preliminary costs for the build of the Park Shop was astronomical. The preliminary engineering of the shop quotes came in at \$130,000. The cost estimates for the building to be built came in at \$700,000 for a steel structure type building. This would not be doable with the budget or use all of the park impact fees to build a shop. There was discussion to lease a space temporarily. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Jostes made a motion to table Park Maintenance Shop and Ms. Brannon seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

Mr. Marquardt Aye

Ms. Brannon Aye

Mr. Jostes Aye

Mr. Rodriguez Aye

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2025 Encumbrances

Mr. Rodriguez stated the 2025 encumbrances for the 2026 year was discussed extensively during the Work Session prior to this meeting. Discussion ensued on the topic of encumbrances for the 2026 year.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for an Enclosed trailer, to not exceed \$10,711.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for a dump trailer, to not exceed \$12,600.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for a walking path around Town Grounds, to not exceed \$80,000.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for the Polk Street drive-way and parking lot at the property that the Town acquired to not exceed \$16,500.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for a swing-bay at Robin's Nest Park not to exceed \$5,015, swing bay border timbers and stakes not to exceed \$3,015 and playground resurfacing wood chips not to exceed \$4,200.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for four sets of concrete corn hole not to exceed \$6,792.

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Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for the annual semi-truck of playground mulch not to exceed \$4,200.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for additional garden kit for the community garden not to exceed \$1,784.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for the striping of Hanover Park not to exceed \$2,800.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for Arborvitae at the Gazebo on Town Grounds not to exceed \$2,604.88.

Mr. Rodriguez requested a motion for a shelter kit and installation at Lynnsway Park not to exceed \$75,000.

Ms. Brannon made a motion to approve the 2025 Encumbrances that were listed and Mr. Marquardt seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

Mr. Marquardt Aye

Ms. Brannon Aye

Mr. Jostes Aye

Mr. Rodriguez Aye

2. Fitness Premier Vendor Agreement

Mrs. Ray stated that this is an agreement to have Fitness Premier offer a quarterly 4-week class for the Parks department at no cost to us or the community. There will be one monthly pop-up class and one monthly open gym for the 2026 year. She noted the Parks Department will be able to bring more types of fitness programming and education to the community. The Parks Department will be able to advertise in Fitness Premier's facility with flyers and use of their tv's that are through out the facility. Anyone who signs up with the gym through our programs will have the opportunity to join the gym with a zero-membership cost and a 20% off of all services.

Mr. Jostes made a motion to approve the Fitness Premier Vendor Agreement and Mr. Marquardt seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

Mr. Marquardt Aye

Ms. Brannon Aye

Mr. Jostes Aye

Mr. Rodriguez Aye

3. Recreation Impact Fee Study

Mrs. Ray stated that there are two proposals for consideration for the Recreation Impact Fee Study, there is a price difference between the two companies. One of the firms is giving a shorter timeline for completion and showing they would work to see that there is no gap in collection of funds. Mrs. Ray stated the town has worked with both of the firms in years past. Discussion ensued on this topic.

Mr. Jostes made a motion to defer to November meeting so they can interview the two vendors and Mr. Marquardt seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

Mr. Marquardt Aye

Ms. Brannon Aye

Mr. Jostes Aye

Mr. Rodriguez Aye

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4. Consideration of Tree City USA Program Participation

Mrs. Ray stated that Cliff Wroe the IT Director has created a presentation on the Tree City USA Program. Mr. Wroe stated that he has been an Arbor Day Member for 25 years. In order to become a Tree City there is a need for a Tree Board, Ordinance and a Community Forestry Program with \$2 per capita and observe Indiana Arbor Day by Proclamation. The Tree Board would consist of a group of volunteer citizens established by ordinance. That group would be legally responsible for management of the community public trees. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Jostes made a motion to recommend to Town Council to adopt the Tree City USA Program by ordinance and Mr. Marquardt seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

Mr. Marquardt Aye

Ms. Brannon Aye

Mr. Jostes Aye

Mr. Rodriguez Aye

REPORTS:

1. Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Ray updated the board that her report highlighted that September was a busy month of quoting after projects were identified.

2. Recreation Coordinator's Report

Mr. Wiesemann updated the board that he is continuing to utilize the Crown Point Schools Newsletter to promote Park programing and events. Hanover accepted our flyer for Trunk or Treat to distribute to students and will allow us to put a sign up at the Old Administration Building.

The next Senior Gathering will be held on October 6th and Mike and Sara from Fitness Premier will be the guest speakers.

Soccer photos were September 27th.

Parks at the Farmers Market program has been very successful.

Paint Classes for adults and children will start back up on October 15th at the Clubhouse.

Bands Brews and Bugaboos event had about 200 to 250 attendees.

Cedar Lake Soccer had a Recreation Night at Hanover Central High School on the Boys Soccer Senior Night. The girls' soccer coach reached out and would like us to participate with the girls' soccer.

The December 8th Senior Gathering will have the Lakeside Artist Guild perform from 12:30-1pm and bingo will be played from 1-2pm.

Trunk or Treat will be held on October 25th. This year there will be the addition of hayrides and a DJ.

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3. Maintenance Report

Mr. Banhart updated the Park Board that many projects were completed this month.

Mrs. Ray stated that at the Dog Park water fountain will be shut off at the end of October for the winter months.

Mr. Banhart also stated that the donated bench was installed at Meyer Manor Park.

4. Town Council

5. Park Foundation Report

Ms. Sumara updated the board that their Fall Festival was a success.

Ms. Suamara stated that they have Cedar Lake Park Foundation shirts, cups and keychains for sale at the Chamber of Commerce.

She asked if the Parks Department would store some of the Foundations supplies from the Fall Fest.

The Eagles gave the Park Foundation a date to host a Bingo for fundraiser.

Then Parks Foundation also stated that they are working on updating the bylaws.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Nolan Scott, 8714 W. 139th Court, stated that he would like to see a monthly youth event.

Cheryl Parker, 7227 W. 136th Court, was looking for an update on the trees that will be planted this fall. Mrs. Ray stated that there will be 21 trees planted at the end of October. Discussion ensued.

Kathleen Broomhead, 14351 W. 135th Avenue, was looking for next steps on the Park Maintenance Shop. Mr. Rodriguez stated that next steps would be leasing or getting some space at Public Works. Discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT Mr. Jostes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 pm and Ms. Brannon seconded the motion. The next meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE PARK BOARD

Paul Rodriguez, President

Dave Jostes, Vice-President

Gayle Brannon, Member

Greg Marquardt, Member

ATTEST:

Sharon D'Apice, Recording Secretary

These minutes are transcribed pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-4(b) which states:

(b) As the meeting progresses, the following memoranda shall be kept:

(1) The date, time, and place of the meeting.

(2) The members of the governing body recorded as either present or absent.

(3) The general substance of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided.

(4) A record of all votes taken by individual members if there is a roll call.

(5) Any additional information required under section 3.5 or 3.6 of this chapter or any other statute that authorizes a governing body to conduct a meeting using an electronic means of communication.