

August 19, 2025

**Public Meeting Advertised for 7:00 PM
Conducted at the Cedar Lake Town Hall
Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence
Roll Call:**

Present	Robert H. Carnahan Council Member	Ward 1	Present	Mary Joan Dickson Council Member	At Large
Present	Julie Rivera Council Member	Ward 2	Present	Richard C. Thiel Jr. Council Member	At Large
Present	Nicholas A. Recupito Council Member	Ward 3	Present	Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMCA, CMC, CPFIM Clerk-Treasurer	
Present	Chuck Becker Council Member	Ward 4	Present	Ben Eldridge Town Manager	
Present	Greg Parker Council Member	Ward 5	Present	David Austgen Town Attorney	

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Ordinance No. 1517, Public Way Vacation Public Hearing – Rago

- a. Review of Legals – Mr. Austgen stated the legals are in order for the public hearing.
- b. Opening Remarks – Mr. Recupito stated a vacation request was received for the Rago's in the vicinity of 8448 W. 139th Avenue.
- c. Reading of Ordinance No. 1517 – Mr. Parker read by title only.

Mr. Recupito noted three packets of objections were submitted in support of keeping the walkway. Thirty were received on August 18th, another twelve received on August 18th, and five on August 19th. Some of the names are legible and some are not. He asked Ms. Sandberg to place all of them in their entirety into the record. Ms. Sandberg acknowledged the request. Mr. Recupito stated he spoke with Attorney Austgen earlier and they need to get the correct names for the individuals. Mr. Austgen stated his recommendation is that they date stamp each of the remonstrance or information submitted. Ms. Sandberg asked if they went through Mr. Recupito or the Town Manager's Office. Mr. Recupito stated the Town Manager's Office and then given to him. Ms. Sandberg stated she would work with Monica. Mr. Recupito stated they want to make sure they all get put in the record. He reminded people to stay civil and stay on point during remonstrance.

Mr. John Rago stated the goal tonight is to finalize the vacation of the abandoned walkway. They started this five years ago. They wish to build a deck on their home. Mr. Rago stated at the last hearing in May, the Council said if they would move the wires, they would vacate the walkway and allow them to build the deck. He stated they contracted with NIPSCO. NIPSCO was supposed to begin burying the wires today but due to weather outages, it has been postponed until tomorrow. He asked that upon movement of the wires, as the Council told them to do, that they will receive the building permit. Mr. Recupito stated there will probably be questions on the public way and HOA property. He asked Mr. Austgen if they have gotten this far without knowing what this is. Mr. Austgen stated it is a public way. He has rendered that opinion throughout the course of these proceedings. The first four petitions and again tonight.

- d. Remonstrators

Terri Cox, President for Lakeshore Subdivision, 8505 W. 139th Avenue, stated she has been living there for a little over a year but has owned the home for almost 15-20 years. She stated they were only given the petition about a week and a half ago that the petition was going to be on this docket. She stated she has not had a lot of time to prepare for it. She stated quite a few of the community members are not in favor of it. She stated Nathan Vis is the attorney for the subdivision and presented a letter from him. She read it into the record. See end of meeting minutes for letter from Mr. Nathan Vis. Mrs. Cox discussed a survey shared earlier to put on the screen. She discussed the document and where it showed the homes in circles and alleyways. It goes to the lakefront which is called Outlot C. It is owned by the subdivision. She stated you can see the vacated rail line and see the 10-foot walkway and nine homes that belong to the Lakeview residents. She continued to read from Mr. Vis's letter. Mrs. Cox stated she had a couple comments and asked for her three minutes. Mr. Recupito stated she just spoke and they want to try to keep fairness. Mr. Austgen recommended the letter be inserted into the record.

Rebecca Davis, 8504 W. 139th Avenue, stated her family has been in the neighborhood since 1954. This has been going on for a very long time. The

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lakefront people, Lakeview people, do not like it because it is public in front of their houses. She stated she can understand that. Unfortunately, it is owned by the subdivision. She directed them to look at the map and see it is from 1926. In 1926, the descriptions say that the land belongs to and has been given to Lakeshore Subdivision when it was created. She stated it is ten-foot of property and there is no way for emergency vehicles to get down to the property. The land that is on the front has been blocked by people planting bushes, fences, stairs, and other things. She stated it has been allowed because the past presidents and boards have lived on the lakefront. Unfortunately, they only need nine votes and there are nine people. She stated there were 89 houses and it has been going on forever. She discussed the vacation request and stated they would like to see to it that the walkway may be relocated to Outlot C. She stated that would bring it up by ten feet. Yes, some people would have to remove some fences and some bushes. She stated it would give vehicles, emergency vehicles, access to get down to the lakefront. She invited them down to the area to see it for themselves. She stated it is really not fair that the subdivision has to give up ten feet of property. If they were able to move that to the lakefront, then they can go on and develop a nice beach area for everyone. She stated they have not been allowed to do that. They finally have a president that is concerned about the families that live in the subdivision. She continued to discuss the access area for Out lot C and previous vacations in the area. She asked the Council for help.

Paul DeYoung, 13925 Butternut Street, stated he has lived here for 39 years. He stated there was a boat ramp on the property years ago. All the lakeshore property was given to Lakeshore subdivision by the Monon, including the walkway. He stated the previous Council tried to sell some lake front for lake view people. He said they got that resolved. He stated he thinks the smartest thing to do is if they want the ten feet, to give ten feet of lake property. That will give the fire department and police department access to the lake. It does nothing but make sense. He stated the Monon said they could never sell it. He asked how the town can just give it away.

Joe Siwinski, 13825 Huseman Street, disagreed with earlier statements. He stated it is public. He asked what they do when they take a subdivision into the village. He asked does the subdivision own the streets. He stated no. The Town of Cedar Lake gets them. He stated that is a public right of way. He stated the subdivision does not own it. It never has. When they bring a subdivision in, everything is laid out in a plat. He discussed Out lot C being the exception as it is a separate deed and could never be sold. Everything laid out in the plat which allows it to be vacated just like any other subdivision. It has not been used as a path in years. It is a path to nowhere. It is improper planning. He discussed the Rago's original building permit with the sliding glass door that is elevated in the air. He stated it is not safe. He stated that was issued five years ago. He stated nothing is being taken away. It has not been used as a path. It is a public access way that they used to use years ago. It does not make any sense. He voiced concerns with the discussion to move land. It is not movable and no one is going to agree to that. He continued to voice his concerns. He discussed precedence and previous vacations in the area on neighboring homes. He stated it is common sense and stated it is dividing a community.

Mark Blandford, 13904 Soper Street, disagreed with comments made by the previous remonstrator. He stated he worked for the Town of Cedar Lake for 24 years. Havenwood subdivision is a private subdivision. They own their streets. The Town never plowed it or maintained it. The Town only maintains the water facility. He gets people do not want other people walking directly behind their house. He suggested the subdivision and the owners of the house, allow the 10-foot be allowed to move to the lakefront. He argued that it is not private property. He stated it is ridiculous they are fighting over it. Move it to the lakefront and everyone can enjoy it.

Jessica Morgan, 13906 Huseman Street, stated she has lived in her home for 25 years and did not know that that was accessible. She stated the previous board kept it under wraps. She stated they delivered 47 objection letters. The community is made up of volunteers. They care for areas adjacent to their homes. She stated she realizes the public walkway in front of the lakeview homes is not the greatest idea but they pay for the privilege to enjoy the lakefront. She stated they do not have lakefront property. They have lakeview property. She stated no body is happy and she hopes they can listen to everyone here that have voted against it.

Denene Reppa, 13843 Soper Street, stated she had a document that combines comments from members. She read from the document and it can be found at the end of the minutes.

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Luke O'Connell, 13901 Butternut Street, continued reading from the document that Mrs. Reppa was reading from. It can be found at the end of the minutes.

Jeff Peterson, 13829 Huseman Street, discussed the walkway and asked to show the other map. He stated the walkway is off of the lakefront. It is blocked by a fence in several yards. There is no way to walk that without going through brush and many obstacles. It is called a walkway but not used for that anymore. He asked who would have the authority to move the 10-feet. The subdivision says it is their property. He asked if the Town would have the authority to move it to Out lot C. Mr. Austgen stated the answer is no under Indiana law. The property owners would need to collectively take action needed to combine in order to move the 10-feet. Mr. Peterson stated on the north end of the path, many rescue vehicles have been on the conference grounds property with access to the lake. It is not something the Town is being cut off from. The south end of the Out lot C, is larger and has never been developed. Several boat piers are down there. A swim pier is there with plenty of access. He stated his concern would be who has the authority to move the 10-foot.

Jerry Wilkening, 10826 W. 131st Avenue, he asked Mr. Recupito if it is his understanding that the easement proposed by the Rago's, through NIPSCO, that will run north on the west side of his property and east on the north side of his property, will suffice in all repairs and maintenance of the other two homeowners. Mr. Recupito stated he questioned it and spoke with Mr. Dillion at NIPSCO. He asked who determined the 7.5-feet was sufficient. According to Mr. Dillion, the NIPSCO engineers determined the 7.5-feet were sufficient to do what they need to do in the easement. Mr. Wilkening stated he is saying easement but there are two more properties with overhead service. He asked if he is considering that the easement. Mr. Recupito stated no. Mr. Wilkening stated the lines are on the path being spoken on. Mr. Wilkening said they do not have anything from the HOA that is allowing trespass or anything else. Mr. Recupito stated what the Rago's submitted and what has been proposed is a new easement along the west boundary line of their property and going east along the north boundary. It will reconnect along the 10-foot piece of land that they are requesting to vacate. That is the establishment of a new easement on the Rago's property. It does not affect any of the property owners going north where the strip of land would continue. It does not affect the accessibility. Mr. Wilkening commented the Wilkening's do not have a fence crossing the path. Perhaps bushes, but no fences crossing.

Delbert Kralek, 8507 W. 139th Place, stated he is looking at it as a historic piece of property. He stated it was not given by the Monon Railroad but Monty Beesaker. He was also a developer. He could have developed it back then but chose to leave it the way it is. He stated over the years he has seen different historic places torn down. He stated it could have been prevented back in the day. He stated he does not want to continue seeing this happen in the Town. He believes Monty Beesaker left it for his legacy. Mr. Recupito asked him what property he is referencing. Mr. Kralek stated the railroad bed which is the subdivision property. Mr. Recupito asked if he meant along the lake. Mr. Kralek stated along the lake. Mr. Recupito stated they are not considering vacating any of that.

Terri Cox, introduced herself as a licensed broker for thirty years in development. She discussed some saying the Monon Railway gave it to them and some say Beesaker gave it to them. She stated it is a subdivision. They have found plats. Becky Davis went to county and spoke with Dan Holobowski in the mapping department. She showed him the plat and asked if there was a preceding plat. There was not. Beesaker was one of the developers and gave it for future use to the public. Mrs. Cox discussed the vacation. She stated she has watched Cedar Lake go down and resurge. She stated she has always tried to find a solution. She believed the solution would be to move the 10-foot to the lakefront. She continued to discuss use and access. She warned of lost lake rights. Mr. Recupito asked her what lake rights have been taken away. Mrs. Cox discussed the lake eroding. She stated they have been trying to figure out how to get down there to help rebuild the lakeshore on the north end. It would eventually go to the lot line of the homeowners and they will lose the lake rights. If they had the 10-foot line they would be able to rebuild the lakefront and not lose it.

Rebecca Davis discussed the plat in the documents shared. She pointed out where the Lakeshore Addition described Monty Beesaker gave the property to the Lakeshore subdivision. She stated if you read it the developer gave the property to the subdivision. It has not been abandoned. They have to take care of the lake and cul de sacs. They do take care of it. It is abandoned because they cannot walk on it. She voiced concerns about what was done prior. Mr. Carnahan asked about

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the fence and if a permit was issued. Mr. Kubiak stated not to his knowledge. The line has been built up to because it was considered an easement over the years.

Mr. Recupito asked Mr. Rago to step back up. Mr. Rago discussed access. He stated when you come to the end of 139th Avenue by the subdivision gate it is 40-foot wide by 100-feet deep. It runs down to the lake. On the south end it is 30-foot wide and reduces to maybe 28-feet by his property. The next property is wide open. He stated you could drive a tractor trailer in there. One individual has a 20-foot boat lift. He does that with a front loader. There is enough room for an ambulance or a fire truck. The gate opens up wide. It is not a safety issue. The area to be vacated, all the homes are built 20 to 30 feet above the lake level. The house next door is sloped. It is difficult to walk at the slope. Vacating this does not prevent anyone from the beach area. Anyone that wants to can walk through the gate and go as far north as they want to. He continued to discuss the access to the lakefront and use. He discussed the previous vacations around his property. He again stated it is not a safety issue. He asked that they vote to vacate it.

Mr. Recupito asked Mr. Austgen to assess the information from this evening. Mr. Austgen stated all the procedures leading to this point have been followed and met under Indiana Code. Applications, information, and documentation was handled and processed correctly. The public hearing components were met completely. They have now conducted the public hearing and have the discretion to act by way of approval of the ordinance proposing the vacation. It is completely at their discretion. Mr. Carnahan asked about if a motion is made to continue the public hearing. He asked about more time to digest some of the information given. Mr. Austgen stated they have the discretion to determine a deferral but he would not recommend the public hearing remain open. It is a statutory process and has been conducted and completed. They could also conduct a first reading of the ordinance. He stated if they decide to go forward with the first step, they should consider whether there are any terms or conditions that they deem appropriate. He stated one individual was present and read part of the statute. He stated they should do the same as it follows the law. He stated it seems like classic Cedar Lake has intersected with classic real estate issues they find in the town often. On the face, the petition seems to be simple. It does not stay simple when they hear folks and the information provided. He stated it being simple or as complicated as who really owns the property. That is really the decision-making question. Mrs. Dickson stated in her subdivision they did flip ten feet for ten feet. She asked how it legal to be done. Mr. Austgen stated it was by agreement as well as public meeting action by the Town Council. He stated the documents have been shared.

e. Town Council Discussion

Mr. Recupito stated he got on in 2023 and the Rago's have been dealing with it before his time. When they originally came, most had an issue with the wires. That was with the understanding it was Town property. No one is trying to take HOA property. He stated they have all been properly noticed. Mr. Austgen stated notices were issued under requirements of law. In each and every instance. Mr. Recupito asked if that was adjacent property. Mr. Austgen stated yes. Mr. Parker stated it is like the fifth time it has been here. Mr. Thiel stated he knows this is the first time they have heard about moving 10-feet. He stated this is the first he has heard such a thing. He knows Mr. Austgen stated they cannot do that. He asked Mr. Rago how he felt about that. Mr. Rago stated he would not want to do that. He wants to be treated like everyone who has received a vacation prior. Mr. Rago continued to discuss his property and the path. Mr. Thiel stated looking at the map and what he has seen from site visits. He discussed Huseman street and asked if there was a fence on the south of the conference grounds. It was stated yes. He asked where the walkway goes to. Someone stated it was a path to nowhere. Mr. Thiel stated that is the problem. Along the south of Mr. Rago, it does have access to the lake. If it were to happen, they were to cut off access to nothing. Multiple voices overlapped with clapping. Mr. Thiel stated he could understand on the north of Mr. Siwinski or if there was a gate on the north end. That is the problem he has looking at it currently and how long the fence has been there as well as that it is not cutting off access to the lake. Mr. Rivera asked Chief Mager about a fire truck getting through the gate. Chief Mager stated he has not reviewed it to make a decision. Mr. Kubiak stated if they do proceed, he would like to see the north 7.5-feet of the path remain an easement. He discussed Exhibit A. Discussion continued amongst the Town Council on Exhibit A and the easement proposed. Mr. Becker discussed deferring the item to digest all the information given. Discussion continued.

f. Town Council Decision

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A motion to close the public hearing and defer this item to the next meeting on September 2, 2025, was made by Chuck Becker with second by Mary Joan Dickson. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Parker – No, Recupito – No. Vote 5 – 2.

PRESENTATION: Video on Wake Boats

Mr. Carnahan stated he met with a resident on Saturday. She sent the video and wanted him to play it. He stated the lake is not anywhere near 20-feet deep. He stated he sent the emails from Cliff on it. Mr. Recupito said it is a little bit of information for the public. Mr. Carnahan said yes. Discussion continued on the lake.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Minutes: July 15, 2025**
- 2. Claims: All Town Funds: \$318,458.22; Wastewater Operating: \$27,666.64; Water Utility: \$57,889.74; Storm Water: \$66,171.89; Payroll (8/14/25): \$417,204.63; July Remittances: \$355,965.93**
- 3. Donations: Lake Shore True Value, In-Kind Donation of 25” Oscillating Fan.**
- 4. Manual Journal Entries: July 1, 2025-July 31, 2025**

A motion to accept and waive the reading of the minutes and accept the consent agenda as listed was made by Greg Parker with second by Chuck Becker. Mr. Carnahan asked where the fan would be located. It was stated it was a Police Department donation. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Parker – Yes, Recupito – Yes. Vote 7 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Summerfest request of Tourism Funds

Mr. Recupito stated a letter was received with a request for \$2,000 from the Tourism Funds. A brief discussion occurred on tourism funds and the amount available.

A motion to approve \$2,000 was made by Greg Parker with second by Robert Carnahan. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Parker – Yes, Recupito – Yes. Vote 7 – 0.

2. Knights of Columbus request of Tourism Funds

Mr. Recupito stated a request letter was received for Tourism Funds.

A motion to approve \$2,000 was made by Julie Rivera with second by Robert Carnahan. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Parker – Yes, Recupito – Yes. Vote 7 – 0.

3. CLPD would like to request removal of equipment from inventory and insurance schedule.

Equipment Item: Drone Make: Parrot Model: ANAF1 Serial Number: 58942/SCPP1/2018 Estimated value \$3,000 Reason for removal: no longer functional Chief Gruszka stated they are keeping the case but other than that it is end of life. Mr. Carnahan asked if they would get anything for it. Chief Gruszka stated it is non-functional and not working. Mr. Parker asked about placing it on GovDeals. Chief Gruszka stated they could try.

A motion to approve was made by Julie Rivera with second by Greg Parker. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Parker – Yes, Recupito – Yes. Vote 7 – 0.

4. Approval to utilize Town Hall as a polling location for Hanover Community School Corporation special election on Tuesday, November 4, 2025

A motion to approve was made by Robert Carnahan with second by Mary Joan Dickson. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Parker – Yes, Recupito – Yes. Vote 7 – 0.

5. Request to reschedule the November 4, 2025 Redevelopment Commission Meeting to 7:00 PM and the Town Council Meeting to 7:30 PM

A motion to approve the reschedule of the Redevelopment Commission meeting on November 4th to start at 7:00PM and the Town Council meeting to immediately follow was made by Robert Carnahan with second by Julie Rivera. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes,

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Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Parker – Yes, Recupito – Yes.
Vote 7 – 0.

6. Direction for Participation in National Night Out

Mr. Carnahan stated he requested this to be on there. National Night Out used to be done all the time. They would have a limited business meeting on that night. He spoke to Mindi and she attend the event in Hammond. Mrs. Ray stated it is a public safety opportunity for community engagement. Hammond puts a big one on as a larger city. Some communities merge together for events. It is a community event that could be as simple as a picnic, parade, or festival. She stated she would be willing to help plan and execute an event for next year. A member of the audience discussed previous event years. Mr. Recupito asked Chief Gruszka if they could pull it off. Chief Gruszka stated it is about forming partnerships. His experience is people come for the toys. The like the vehicles and such. Mr. Carnahan stated Mindi would be willing to work on it. Mrs. Dickson discussed involving public works. Mr. Carnahan stated it is on the First Tuesday in August.

A motion to direct Mrs. Ray to help plan the National Night Out event for 2026 was made by Robert Carnahan with second by Julie Rivera. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Parker – Yes, Recupito – Yes.
Vote 7 – 0.

7. Install Crosswalk at 129th and Edison

Mr. Carnahan stated he was stopped by MacArthur School. On 129th and Edison Street he would like to see a crosswalk. He voiced concerns with kids crossing 129th from the school. He stated he would like to see a crosswalk there. Mr. Kubiak stated it is quite an undertaking. You have to have ADA curb cuts. He voiced concerns with there being no where to receive the crosswalk on the other side of Edison. He stated it would be quite a challenge. He stated they would need to consult an engineer to make sure it is done properly. Discussion continued on the area, a crosswalk, and feasibility.

A motion to instruct Mr. Kubiak to formulate a plan for a crosswalk at 129th and Edison was made by Robert Carnahan with second by Richard Thiel. Roll Call: Carnahan – Yes, Rivera – Yes, Becker – Yes, Dickson – Yes, Thiel – Yes, Parker – Yes, Recupito – Yes.
Vote 7 – 0.

REPORTS

1. Town Council – Mr. Thiel reported that he was called by a resident about 131st and Schubert Street. Concerns with cars blowing through the stop signs. He also asked about a streetlight. Mr. Kubiak stated he has not had a chance to look at it. Mr. Thiel asked if there would have to be door knocking for adjacent homeowners. He asked about the process. Mr. Carnahan stated the LED lights do not shine like the old ones. Mr. Kubiak stated they assess each situation. Mr. Thiel stated he spoke to some residents about Illinois plates and school drop offs. Chief Gruszka stated they have prepared a letter for new residents. To educate on the process. It is a soft approach. Mr. Recupito stated they will have a meeting next week on the water. It will be on August 26th at 6PM. They will present on how the water utility works in Town. The engineer will be present. Mrs. Dickson discussed the Chamber Luncheon and the presentation by the DNR. They asked for their bits of information on the lake inlets to be placed in the next newsletter. Mr. Carnahan asked about the alum. Mrs. Dickson stated it is not as beneficial as they think it would be. Mr. Eldridge stated the DNR stated the alum was an outdated treatment. There are better products. That was his understanding of the presentation. He does not believe any treatment is a one and done. Alum was used in the past but an outdated treatment. There are other chemicals to treat the water better. Mr. Carnahan asked Greg to announce about the new director at the Boys and Girls Club. Mr. Parker read a letter that announced Alyssa White as the new director. Mr. Carnahan discussed the upcoming open house at Railside Business Park on September 10th. Mr. Thiel asked about the meeting on the 26th and which board would run it. Mr. Recupito stated the last informational meeting was run by the engineer. Mr. Carnahan discussed the Park Foundation's Family Friendly Fall Festival on September 27th. Mrs. Sumara stated they would send out flyers. It will be in conjunction with the museum. It is an event to introduce the foundation.

2. Town Attorney - None

3. Clerk-Treasurer – Ms. Sandberg reported the State Board of Accounts Audit will begin next week.

4. Town Manager – Mr. Eldridge stated they will close early on Thursday the 28th for an Employee Appreciation Luncheon. It will be announced online.

5. Director of Operations – Mr. Kubiak stated they started on the north end some drainage pipes and catch basins for the upcoming road improvements. Pavement should

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follow shortly. Mr. Parker asked for a timeline on the east side projects. They are still waiting on NIPSCO to pressurize mains.

6. Police Department – Chief Gruszka reported on the monthly calls report. At the Board of Safety meeting on the 27th they will award Officer Dills with a Lifesaving Award. He invited them to attend.

7. Fire Department – Chief Mager reported on the monthly training and calls report.

8. Parks Department – Mrs. Ray thanked them for bringing back National Night Out. She discussed the completion of the shelter at Bartlett Wahlberg Park. She stated another upgrade is coming to the park space. They will seal coat and stripe the parking lot. It will be closed for that upgrade. The shelter should open in approximately two weeks. That shelter is an amenity for that space. There is no rental fee for that space. No grill will be located but people can bring a propane grill into the park space.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

1. Building Department Report

2. Christopher B. Burke Report

PUBLIC COMMENT

Debbie Marcukaitis, 8005 W. 146th Avenue, asked what is the status of the fire station. She asked if NIPSCO people coming in for the utility board and if they would take questions. Mr. Recupito stated she does not see NIPSCO coming to the utility board. The Town has nothing to do with NIPSCO. She asked about the meeting on the 26th. Mr. Thiel stated that is the water information meeting. Mr. Recupito stated as for the fire building there is no plan set in stone. The police department is functional. She asked about permits for new wells for existing. Mr. Carnahan stated they cannot force anyone to sign up for town water. She discussed the NIPSCO increases. A brief discussion continued on NIPSCO increases.

Kathleen Broomhead, 14351 W. 135th Avenue, thanked them for the funds on behalf of Summerfest. Hopefully next year they will work with Mindi and the crew to work with them on the summerfest.

ADJOURNMENT President Recupito called the meeting to adjournment at approximately 9:53 PM.

COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

Robert Carnahan, Ward 1

Julie Rivera, Ward 2

Nicholas A. Recupito, Ward 3

Chuck Becker, Ward 4

Greg Parker, Ward 5

Mary Joan Dickson, At-Large

ATTEST:

Richard C Thiel Jr., At-Large

Jennifer N. Sandberg, IAMCA, CMC, CPFIM
Clerk-Treasurer

The Minutes of the Cedar Lake Town Council 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

TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA
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August 19, 2025

VIA

Town of Cedar Lake

RE: Lakeshore Subdivision Association

Dear Town of Cedar Lake:

I write to you on behalf of the Lakeshore Subdivision Association. I apologize, I could not be with you in person this evening, as I have a conflicting obligation with the Board of Zoning Appeals in Valparaiso.

It is my understanding that before you this evening is the request to vacate what has been described as an abandoned railway walkway located in the Lakeshore Association.

In November 1926, the Lakeshore Subdivision was created with platted streets, alleyways, and the 10-foot walkway adjacent to the railway and lakefront. The location of the alleyways was integral to the establishment of wells and placement of potable waterlines throughout the development. And, the walkways were dedicated to public usage as per the recorded plat. In 1967, when the town was created, and since this date, the town has maintained ownership, control, and maintenance of the streets throughout this subdivision. However, the Association has maintained ownership and control of their potable well system, and ownership, maintenance and control of the alleyways in which local residents park their vehicles, park trailers, and maintain the location of their potable waterlines. Furthermore, it should be notated, at no point did the Association vacate any walkways dedicated to the public.

Point being, what we have in this case is a private entity which owns walkways and alleyways dedicated for public usage, which is far different from a public walkway or alleyway which is owned by the Town of Cedar Lake.

This is a distinction which must be appreciated. At no point in time has the Association relinquished rights/ownership to the town, thus the town has no ownership/standing to vacate the area. A critical component of the statute allowing a municipality to vacate publicly owned right of

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ways is ownership. To that end, as the walkway was dedicated for public usage, with the creation of the Association, and has never been transferred to the town, and is not a vacated pathway of a railway, it is the Association who maintains control of same, and thus, this matter is not properly before you for consideration this evening.

Respectfully,

/s/Nathan D. Vis

Nathan D. Vis

NDV/rmp

8/18/2025

Jessica Morgan is delivering to the town hall, 7408 Constitution Ave., of Cedar Lake, IN letters from the residents of the Lake Shore Subdivision regarding the Notice of Public Hearing on vacation of public way/walkway for the meeting on August 19, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in its regular monthly public meeting.

Please find attached 30 letters Objecting to the vacation of the Public/ walkway.

x Miranda Rosa

Accepted on 8/18/2025

Clerk-Treasurer received
8/19/25 from Nick
Recupito.
SO 8/19/25

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON VACATION OF PUBLIC WAY/WALKWAY

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

William M. Blandford
BLANDFORD

Date

8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

13904 Super St Cedar Lake 46303
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

□

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Toni + Joel Jacinto Date 8-17-25

TONI + JOEL JACINTO

8513 W 139th AVE

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

□

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Rebecca + Ken Davis Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8504 W 139th Ave
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

Richard Royster
RICHARD ROYSTER

Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

8503 W 138th PL
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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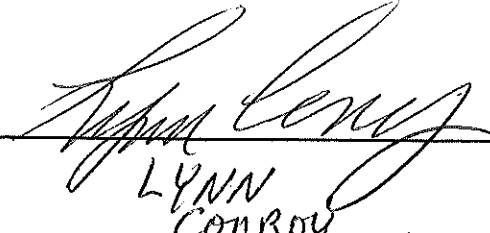
Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature  Date 08.17.2025

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13908 Harrison PL
CEAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Shannon Ludwig Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13903 Soper St.
CEDAR LAKE, IN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON VACATION OF PUBLIC WAY/WALKWAY

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana, a
Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito Town
Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Ken Williams Date 08/17/2025

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13926 Huseman Street

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member RV Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Renee Valfre

8/17/2025

Signature _____ Date _____

13908 Butternut St. Cedar
Lake, IN 46303

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address _____

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X **Object / Support Keeping the Walkway**

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member **Unsure / Neutral**

Lake Shore Subdivision Member **Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access**

Signature Nancy Sullivan Date 8/17/2025

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13914 Huseman Street

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ☒ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐
Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Ernie O'Connell Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8609 139th AVE
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature JOE WILLIAMS Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13930 BOLLING ST.
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ☒ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐
Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

Dawn M. Gower Date 8/17/25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

8605 W 138th PL.

CEDAR LAKE, IN

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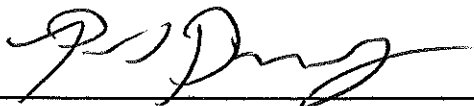
Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature  Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13925 BUTTERNUT ST
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Rekash R. Curry Rom Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8620 139th CT

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Jessie Morgan Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13906 Huseman St

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON VACATION OF PUBLIC WAY/WALKWAY

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Shawn Kunk Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8507 W. 139th PL
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐
Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

Jewell

Date

8/18/25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

8505 W 139th AVE

CEDAR LAKE, IN 46303

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Stu Jacob Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8613 139th Place
CEAR LAKE, IN

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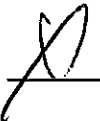
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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member  Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature  Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13920 Beutner St.
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

Date

8-17-2025

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

13929 W. Wagon St, Cedar Lake, In

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature [Signature] Date 8/17/25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13938 Hugeman St
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

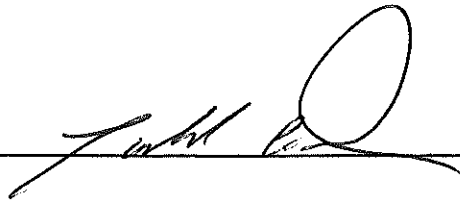
Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature



Date

8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

13926 BUTTERNUT ST
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

Desire M. Miller

Date

08/17/2025

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

13861 Butternut St.
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐
Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Emily J. Weller Date 8/17/25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13855 Butternut St.

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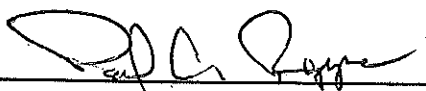
Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Isl Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature  Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13843 Super St. CL 46303
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature As Staples Date 8.17.25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8518 139th
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

□

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

[Handwritten Signature]

Date

8/17/25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

2516 W. 138th St.
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

□

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Mike Petro Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8709 W 139th PL
CEDAR LAKE, IN

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ~~X~~ **Object / Support Keeping the Walkway**

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ **Unsure / Neutral**

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ **Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access**

Signature

Jodi Pascoe

Date

8/18/25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

13856 Husman St
Cedar Lake, In 46303

Attachment to Objection Letters

Date: August 18, 2025

To: Cedar Lake Town Hall
7408 Constitution Ave
Cedar Lake, Indiana

Subject: Objection Letters - Vacation of Public Walkway

Luke O'Connell has delivered to the Cedar Lake Town Hall, on behalf of the Lake Shore Subdivision Association, Inc., the enclosed objection letters from residents regarding the **Notice of Public Hearing on the Vacation of Public Way (Walkway)** scheduled for **Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** during the Town Council's regular monthly meeting.

Please find attached **twelve (12) signed objection letters** from Lake Shore Subdivision residents opposing the proposed vacation of the public walkway.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON VACATION OF PUBLIC WAY/WALKWAY

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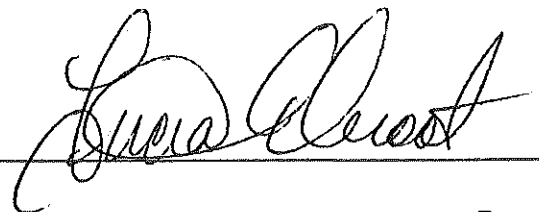
Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member  Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

 Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature  Date 8-17-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8710 W. 139th Ave, CL 46303

I feel the HOA needs time to fully understand the ramifications of this proposal. The homeowners have not had adequate time to review the proposal and what it means for our access to Outlot "C" and the lakefront. Therefore, at this time I vote to object this proposal.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON VACATION OF PUBLIC WAY/WALKWAY

NOTICE is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Cedar Lake Town Council at the Cedar Lake Town Hall, 7408 Constitution Avenue, Cedar Lake, Indiana, on the 19th day of August, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., in its regular monthly public meeting, to consider a Petition to Vacate a Public Way/Walkway, pursuant to I.C. 36-7-3- 12, as amended.

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana, a
Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito Town
Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature K. Centrell Date Aug 17 2025

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13913 Huxman ST Cedar Lake

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Mally Murphy Robert Gomez Date 8-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13900 butternut st

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

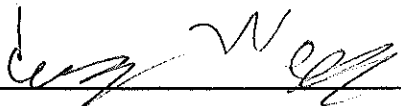
By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature  Date 8-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13907 butternut st

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature William Renwick Date 8-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8617 W 139TH PL

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

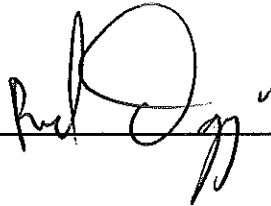
Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature



(Rick Tozzi)

Date

8-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

13911 Butternut St.

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

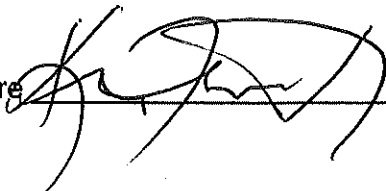
Lake Shore Subdivision Member K 7^x Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature



Date

8/18/25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

865 W 139th Ave

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Km Cies Date 8-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8711 W 139th Ave

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Lama Nial Date 7-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8528 W 139th Ct

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

□

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Joseph Luke O'Connell Date 8/18/2025

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 13901 Butternut Street

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

D. J. Hupfauer
Daniel Hupfauer

Date

8/18/2025

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

13917 SOPHIE ST

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

□

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature Richard Kutcher Date 8-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address 8602 139th Place

Attachment to Objection Letters

Date: August 18, 2025

To: Cedar Lake Town Hall
7408 Constitution Ave
Cedar Lake, Indiana

Subject: Objection Letters - Vacation of Public Walkway

Luke O'Connell has delivered to the Cedar Lake Town Hall, on behalf of the Lake Shore Subdivision Association, Inc., the enclosed objection letters from residents regarding the **Notice of Public Hearing on the Vacation of Public Way (Walkway)** scheduled for **Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** during the Town Council's regular monthly meeting.

Please find attached **twelve (12) signed objection letters** from Lake Shore Subdivision residents opposing the proposed vacation of the public walkway.

AUGUST 19, 2025
JESSICA MORGAN IS DROPPING
OFF 5 OBJECTION LETTERS

~~Christa M. Vank~~
RECEIVED BY
TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana, a
Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito Town
Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ***supports keeping walkway***

Object / Support Keeping the Walkway ✓

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

Date

8/19/25

Christian Rolly

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

8536W 139CT

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

Nick Recupito

Date

8-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

13916 Super St C.L.

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Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: Is/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member ✓ Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐ Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature

Date

8/18/25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

8500 W 139th Ave

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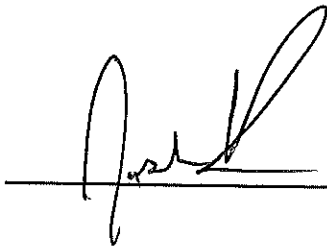
Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature



Date

8-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

13850 BUTTERNUT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON VACATION OF PUBLIC WAY/WALKWAY

NOTICE is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the Cedar Lake Town Council at the Cedar Lake Town Hall, 7408 Constitution Avenue, Cedar Lake, Indiana, on the 19th day of August, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., in its regular monthly public meeting, to consider a Petition to Vacate a Public Way/Walkway, pursuant to I.C. 36-7-3-12, as amended.

Legal Description of Public Way/Alley parcel proposed to be vacated:

A 10 foot abandoned walkway of the Chicago, Indianapolis and Louisville Railroad along the East side of Outlots 20 & 21, between R=1882.23' and R=1872.23, and West of the abandoned Chicago, Indianapolis and Louisville Railroad, on the North side of West 139th Avenue in Lake Shore Addition to Cedar Lake, Indiana, being a subdivision of part of the South 1/2 of Section 27, Township 34 Nmih, Range 9 West of the 2nd P.M., as the same appears of record in Plat Book 20, page 9, in the Recorder's Office in said County.

A copy of the Petition to Vacate a Public Way/Walkway is on file for examination before the Public Hearing in the Cedar Lake Town Hall, located at 7408 Constitution Avenue, Cedar Lake, Indiana. Written objections to the proposed Public Way/Alley vacation which are filed before the Public Hearing will be considered by the Town Council. Oral comments concerning the proposal will be heard by the Town Council at the Public Hearing. The Public Hearing may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary pursuant to applicable law.

Town of Cedar Lake, Lake County, Indiana,
a Municipal Corporation

By: /s/ Nick Recupito
Town Council President

Lake Shore Subdivision Member X Object / Support Keeping the Walkway

☐

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Unsure / Neutral

Lake Shore Subdivision Member _____ Agree to vacate / Give up rights of waterfront access

Signature



Date

8-18-25

Lake Shore Subdivision Member address

8611 W 138th Pl Cedar Lake, IN

TOWN OF CEDAR LAKE, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

Member Comments and Concerns:

1. Walkways Are Not Abandoned
 - They are a living part of Lake Shore Subdivision's design, ownership and rights
 - It was created to serve all members and holds the potential for broader public benefit through emergency access
 - Lakeview homeowners purchased their lots with constructive notice that the walkway was separate.
 - Fences across the walkway are encroachments
2. Ordinance Findings:
 - Claims the walkway is not necessary for the growth of the area.
 - i. Real growth includes community vitality, livability, property values, green space, and requires safety - not just construction. This walkway contributes to all of those.
 - ii. Preserving this walkway keeps open the possibility of an emergency corridor for the west side of Cedar Lake
 - Vacating the walkway would not eliminate public access to any church, school, or public building.
 - i. But the walkway leads to Outlot C — lakefront property that belongs to more than 90 homeowners.
 - ii. Vacating it would eliminate one of the subdivision's dedicated access routes and limits future flexibility.
 - Ordinance claims the walkway is not anticipated as needed for future use.
 - i. Preserving it — or relocating it — could provide the only safe, direct corridor for fire, rescue, or police to reach the lake.
3. It is Subdivision Property
 - The walkway remains part of the 1926 plat
4. Adjacent homeowners maintain, mow and care for the subdivision land.
 - Some members are adjacent to the strip, others to subdivision circles.
 - Just as the nine Lakeview homeowners care for the walkway near their property, all other members of the subdivision care for their own circles. These circles contain water system infrastructure, yet it is the surrounding homeowners who mow and preserve them for everyone's benefit.
5. Emergency Access and Public Safety
 - Relocating the walkway adjacent to Outlot C so that it can serve as a designated emergency access corridor for the Town is an idea that would preserve subdivision-wide rights to the lakefront while giving the Town a safe and reliable access point to the west side of Cedar Lake — something that does not exist today. This walkway begins at the subdivision gates and extends all the way down to the Cedar Lake Ministries property.
 - Relocation would resolve the concern of the nine Lakeview homeowners whose yards are currently bisected by the existing walkway. Lake view families would enjoy full, unbroken yards, while the subdivision and the Town retain the access benefits the walkway was always meant to provide.
6. Previous Vacation
 - Each parcel should be evaluated on it's own merits, history and community impact
 - That past action deprived our subdivision of rights without proper notification to all members, leading to the creation of "Dolder's Lake Addition." The walkway in question here remains part of the 1926 plat and should not simply be dismissed by comparison.
7. Navigable Waters
 - A few members expressed concern if Cedar Lake is a navigable waterbody under Indiana law and expressed concern if vacating a platted access route to navigable waters without State review or approval could be done.
8. The Entire Petition arises not from a public need, but from the private request of a single adjacent homeowner who wishes to build a deck.
 - One individual's convenience can't ever justify stripping over 90 families of their platted rights and closing off a potential emergency access corridor that could one day save lives.