

**January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
Special Meeting**

At 5:30pm, on Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in the Board Room of the Landis Municipal Building, Mayor James Furr called to order the Town of Landis Board of Aldermen Special Meeting. Those present along with the Mayor were Aldermen Roger Safrit, Dennis Brown, Dorland Abernathy and Tony Hilton, Town Manager Reed Linn, Public, Deputy Town Administrator Debbie Goodman, Recreation Director Andrew Morgan, and Administrative Assistant Heather Wood and Town Attorney Rick Locklear.

A quorum was met.

Mayor James Furr opened the meeting and welcomed all those in attendance.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor James Furr.

There were two orders of business to be handled in the Special Meeting.

The first concerned a resolution approving the CIP budget for the PARTF Grant application. Manager Linn provided the site plan for the Board. The grant would be for the Lake Corriher Wilderness Area and it would be a 50% matching grant. The project in question was an \$800,000.00 project. This resolution would allow the Town's application to be scored more favorably. A special meeting had been called because the application was due by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Manager Linn stated that staff had also requested letters of support from various town citizens as well as Fred Steen, the Governor and other state officials.

Last year, the Town had been ranked #2 for the PARTF Grant, but when the Governor had reworked the PARTF Grant committee, for some reason the Town had not gotten funded under the new committee. This year it was very possible that the Town would be awarded the grant.

Recreation Director Andrew Morgan stated that this was done last year, but it had not been approved by a standard motion so the Town had not received points for the approved CIP budget in last year's application. This would give an extra 4 or 5 points to their score for this year. The project cost was \$804,000.00, so if the Town was awarded the grant it would be for \$402,000.00 with the Town paying the other half over two fiscal years, to be completely paid off by 2016.

Alderman Hilton inquired if there would be money in the budget with which to make this possible. Manager Linn stated if the Board moved forward, they were committing to \$200,000.00 per year for two years. If the Board adopted the resolution tonight, Manager Linn stated that they would find the funds. Alderman Hilton inquired if this would be done without a tax increase; Manager Linn confirmed that was the case.

There was some discussion with several spelling mistakes noted in the CIP budget that needed to be fixed prior to submission.

A campsite that would be ADA compliant was included in the plan. This would be done by locating it near the parking lot on a flat area so that it could be easily accessed.

There was some discussion about whether or not the hiking trails were ADA compliant and it was clarified that hiking trails do not have to be ADA compliant. It was also clarified that the new park office was ADA compliant, and the planned bathhouse would be as well.

Director Morgan also pointed out that the wording in the resolution would allow them to re-apply next year if they did not receive the grant this year, without having to pass the resolution once again.

There was some discussion concerning the cabins. Director Morgan stated the plan was to position them as close to the service road as possible and the bathhouse would be near the cabins. The cabins that would be for rent would not have bathrooms. Manager Linn stated that they were trying to keep the cabins as far off the trail as possible and to keep the wilderness theme. So the cabins would be rustic. There was more discussion concerning the cabins and how they would be constructed.

Alderman Abernathy then inquired about the planned learning center. Director Morgan explained that they would be installing a large boardwalk to loop around Lake Corriher and connect the trails. In order to have this covered under the PARTF funding they had to come up with some kind of educational/community use. This is how the learning center had come into being. It would be a large gazebo over the water to have meetings and classes in, as well as an information kiosk. The library would be able to hold book readings there, etc. There was some discussion of the learning center and Alderman Brown recommended making it interactive with information that could be changed out perhaps seasonally.

Director Morgan stated that the boardwalk would cover the marshy areas and they hoped to have it weave through the trees, etc so that it was not simply a straight walk.

Alderman Abernathy inquired when work would start if the funding came through. Director Morgan stated that the PARTF Grant committee would be meeting in April and the grant would be awarded in late May or early June. They would then let the Town know and allow the Town to start seeking contractors to begin in October.

Alderman Hilton inquired if staff had approached anyone else to see if grants were available. Director Morgan stated that everyone they had spoken to told them that PARTF was the best place to seek a grant for a project such as this. There was some discussion and Alderman Safrit recommended contacting Sue Kluttz.

Alderman Hilton motioned, seconded by Alderman Brown, to adopt the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Lake Corriher Wilderness Area with the spelling changes. All voted aye.

Alderman Hilton motioned, seconded by Alderman Safrit, to adopt the Resolution for the Adoption of Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Lake Corriher Wilderness Area. All voted aye.

The second order of business concerned setting a date for the annual budget retreat. There was a brief discussion of possible dates.

Alderman Safrit motioned, seconded by Alderman Brown, to set the annual budget retreat for the 2014-2015 fiscal year for Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 with time and location to be decided at a later date. All voted aye.

Alderman Brown motioned, seconded by Alderman Abernathy, to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:49pm on Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

---

Heather Wood  
Administrative Assistant