



**TOWN OF CICERO  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021 at 7:00 PM**

**Call to Order:** President Strong called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Taylor gave the prayer. Mr. Strong called for the roll call and the members of the Town Council were present or absent as follows:

**Present:** Chad Amos  
Jerry Cook  
Chris Lutz  
Jack Russell  
Dan Strong

**Absent:**

Declare a quorum present.

**Others Present:** Danielle Butts, Deputy Clerk  
Jim Hunter, Police Chief  
Lance Overholser, Fire Chief  
C.J. Taylor, Cicero/Jackson Township Plan Commission Director  
Terry Cooper, Street & Utilities Director – via Zoom  
Sam Haymaker, Park Superintendent  
Aaron Culp, Town Attorney – via Zoom  
Keith Bryant, Town Engineer – via Zoom  
Bruce Freeman, Storm Water Management Board President

**Approval of Agenda:**

Mr. Strong asked to amend the agenda to add reviewing Mr. Culp’s contract with the Town of Cicero. Mr. Lutz made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Cook seconded; motion passed.

**Election of Officers**

**President of the Town Council** – Mr. Russell made a motion to open for nominations for Council President. Mr. Amos seconded; motion passed. Mr. Cook nominated Mr. Strong. Mr. Russell seconded. There were no other nominations. Mr. Amos made a motion to close nominations for Council President. Mr. Russell seconded; motion passed. Vote passed 5-0.

**Vice President of the Town Council** - Mr. Russell made a motion to open for nominations for Vice President. Mr. Lutz seconded; motion passed. Mr. Russell nominated Mr. Amos. Mr. Lutz seconded. There were no other nominations. Mr. Russell made a motion to close nominations for Vice President. Mr. Lutz seconded; motion passed. Vote passed 5-0.

**Council to appoint 2021 Department Heads**

**Fire Chief** – Mr. Amos made a motion to re-appoint Lance Overholser as Fire Chief. Mr. Cook seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**Police Chief** – Mr. Cook made a motion to re-appoint James Hunter as Police Chief. Mr. Russell seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**Street/Utilities Director** – Mr. Lutz made a motion to re-appoint Terry Cooper as Street/Utilities Director. Mr. Amos seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**Plan Commission Director** – Mr. Amos made a motion to re-appoint C.J. Taylor as Plan Commission Director. Mr. Lutz seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**Park Superintendent** – Mr. Russell made a motion to re-appoint Sam Haymaker as Park Superintendent. Mr. Cook seconded; motion passed 5-0.

### **Other Appointments**

**The Cicero Metropolitan Police Commission** – Current is Mike Orr – 3-year appointment. Town Council appointment. – Mr. Amos made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Orr to Cicero Metropolitan Police Commission. Mr. Russell seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**Storm Water Management Board** – Current is Bruce Freeman – 3-year appointment. Town Council President appointment. – Mr. Strong re-appointed Bruce Freeman to a 3-year term beginning 1-1-2021 through 12-31-2023

**Cicero Economic Development Commission** – Current is Kelly Martin and Sue Baker – 2-year terms. One open appointment will remain, and Mr. Cox will have a recommendation soon. Town Council Appointment. – Mr. Amos made a motion to re-appoint Kelly Martin and Sue Baker to Cicero Economic Development Commission. Mr. Cook seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**Cicero Jackson Plan Commission** – Spot is vacant with the resignation of Steve Zell. Mr. Harrison Massonne is the recommendation to replace Mr. Zell and for the remainder of Mr. Zell's term which would end Dec. 31, 2022. Town Council President appointment. Mr. Strong appoints Mr. Massonne as a Plan Commission member.

**Cicero Redevelopment Commission** – Current are Town Council members 1-year term. (3 Presidential appointments, 2 Town Council appointments). Mr. Strong appointed Mr. Cook, Mr. Lutz, and Mr. Russell to Cicero Redevelopment Commission. Mr. Russell made a motion to appoint Mr. Strong and Mr. Amos to the Redevelopment Commission. Mr. Lutz seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**Hamilton County Emergency Management Advisory Council** – Currently Chief Overholser. Town Council appointment. Mr. Amos made a motion to re-appoint Chief Overholser to the Hamilton County Emergency Management Advisory Council. Mr. Lutz seconded; motion passed 5-0.

**Town Council to Hold Public Hearing for Water and Sewer Rate and Fee Increases** – Mr. Amos motioned to open public hearing. Mr. Russell seconded; motion passed 5-0. Mr. Strong reported that the town advertised this meeting, and the rate and fee increases on the Town's website, utility bills, in the Times & Reporter newspapers under legal notices. Dennis Schrupf asked when the last rate increase was. Council explains that rates have been small incremental increases each year for the last few years. No other comments from citizens. Mr. Russell motioned to close the public hearing. Mr. Cook seconded; motion passed 5-0.

### **Approval of Prior Minutes**

**Town Council Meeting Minutes, December 29, 2020, 9:45 AM** – Mr. Amos motioned to approve the December 29, 2020 minutes as presented. Mr. Cook seconded; motion passed 5-0.

### **Approval of Claims** – No claims to be approved

**Petitions by Citizens** – Dennis Schrupf, 1079 Shoreline Circle, asked when the contractor is going to be removing the detour & construction signs especially in front of Cicero Methodist Church. Chief Hunter deferred to Mr. Cooper. Mr. Cooper will be contacting the contractor to have them picked up. Mr. Lutz asked to clarify which projects. Mr. Schrupf mentioned 236<sup>th</sup> Street and Railroad Project. Seeing no further public comment.

### **President's Report**

Mr. Strong to make appointment for Department Liaisons:

Police – Chad Amos

Fire – Chris Lutz

Parks – Jack Russell

Street & Utilities – Jerry Cook & Dan Strong

Plan Commission – Dan Strong

### **Council Committee Reports:**

1. OTC Report – Mr. Russell has nothing.
2. EDC Report – Mr. Lutz has nothing. EDC does not plan to meet in January
3. SWU Management Board Report – Mr. Freeman has nothing.

### **Legal Counsel Report** – Aaron Culp –

1. Asks to schedule Executive Session before next council meeting regarding boat slip rentals. Scheduled for January 19, 2021 at 6:30 pm.
2. Advised the need to orally amend Ordinance No. 11-17-2020-3 & Ordinance No. 11-17-2020-4 effective date to 1<sup>st</sup> bill after February 1, 2021

### **Cicero Jackson Township Plan Commission Report** – Mr. Taylor has nothing.

### **Town Engineer Report – Mr. Bryant**

1. Tamarack –
  - a. Section 3 still working. 95% finished with sanitary sewer complete, Water and Storm sewer each about 40% complete and roughly about 30% Roadway Base.
  - b. Section 4 Mr. Bryant responded with questions and comments to the resubmittal. Currently waiting on their comments.
2. I&I Project – Presented 3D Contractor with 50% of Duke payment which was rejected. Mr. Bryant responded referring the contract and from our point and what should have been done when they noticed unforeseen and changing conditions that they didn't do. Currently waiting for their response to our offer. Warranty of work to be scheduled for the spring.

## Old Business

1. **Water and Sewer Rate and Fee Increases – Ordinance No. 11-17-2020-3 and Ordinance No. 11-17-2020-4** – Mr. Strong stated amended date change to both ordinances. Mr. Amos shares comparable communities' rates to Cicero's. Mr. Amos explains with expansion we need to be able to Mr. Lutz points this is that not only for expansion but repair and replacement of existing. Mr. Amos asked Mr. Hadler or Mr. Rodgers to speak. Mr. Rodgers speaks to how well managing of the rates and the diligence of the council have kept rates down over the years. Mr. Strong mentioned that the interest rates the Town can get today verses in the future will save money for residents in the future. Mr. Cook asked the council to address Mr. William's questions about having grants pay for these improvements. However, when reviewing the grants that are available, Cicero does not qualify. Mr. Rodgers reinforced that Cicero doesn't qualify for a grant or SRF. Mr. Lutz motions to approve Ordinance No. 11-17-2020-3 as modifying effective date of January 1, 2020 to February 1, 2021 located in Section 1 and Section 4-1. Mr. Amos seconded; motion passed 5-0. Mr. Lutz motions to approve Ordinance N. 11-17-2020-4 as modifying effective date of January 1, 2020 to February 1, 2021 located in Section 1 and Section 3-1. Mr. Amos seconded; motion passed 5-0.

## New Business

1. **Red Bridge Community Building Rental Agreement** – Mr. Russell has nothing.
2. **COVID-19 Grant Opportunity – Mr. Strong** – Proposal for review on January 19, 2021
3. **LRS – Encumbrance** – Mr. Amos motions to approve LRS Encumbrance. Mr. Lutz seconded; motion passed 5-0.
4. **Dates to schedule Town Council Retreat** – Council to consider and discuss at January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
5. **Aaron Culp contract for Legal Counsel** – Other than increase in wages contract is the same as the past contract. Mr. Cook made a motion to approve Aaron Culp's contract for legal counsel for 2021. Mr. Lutz seconded; motion passed 5-0.

## Miscellaneous:

1. Mr. Amos mentioned to Mr. Cooper that three lights are out on the causeway.
2. Mr. Amos also asked to schedule an RDC meeting on February 2, 2021 at 6:45.

## Comments for Citizens

1. Bruce Freeman asked what his new rate would be. Mr. Strong explained rates are tiered over the next 3 years. Mr. Amos approximated what Mr. Freeman is to expect his bill to reflect.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Amos made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Lutz seconded; motion passed 5-0.

## Signature on Official Documents!

*Signatures of Cicero Town Council*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan Strong, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chad B. Amos

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Cook

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher J. Lutz

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard J. Russell

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rhonda Gary, Clerk Treasurer

**The Next Cicero Town Council Meeting will be on January 19, 2021, at 7:00 PM at Red Bridge Community Building.**