TOWN OF CICERO
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Call to Order: President Cox called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Gary gave the prayer. President Cox called for roll call. Members of the Cicero Town Council were present or absent as follows:

Present:	Joseph Cox	**Absent:**
	Eric Hayden	
	Dennis Johnson	
	Jacob Everett	
	Emily Pearson	

Declare a Quorum Present: President Cox declared a quorum with all members present.

Others Present:
Rhonda Gary, Clerk Treasurer
Jeff Rednour, Police Chief
Chris Frazier, Fire Chief
Terry Cooper, Street & Utilities Director
Jim Hunter, Parks Superintendent
Aaron Culp, Town Attorney
Keith Bryant, Town Engineer
Bruce Freeman, Storm Water Management Board President

Approval of Agenda: Ms. Pearson made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Johnson seconded, motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Prior Minutes:

Town Council Executive Session Memorandum, September 1, 2026
Town Council Meeting Minutes, September 1, 2026, 7:00 PM

Mr. Hayden made a motion to approve the minutes listed above as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded, motion carried 5-0.

Approval of 9/1/26 Claims: Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve claims as presented. Ms. Pearson seconded, motion carried 5-0.

Budget Public Hearing – Mr. Johnson made a motion to open the budget public hearing. Ms. Pearson seconded, motion carried 5-0. President Cox inquired if anyone in the audience had any questions. There were none. Ms. Gary offered that the budget is funded and has been submitted into Gateway. Afterwards, Mr. Hayden made a motion to close the public hearing. Mr. Johnson seconded, motion carried 5-0. Ms. Gary added that the budget will be adopted at the next council meeting.

Council Committee Reports:

1. SWU Management Board Report – SWU President Freeman had nothing to present.

Legal Counsel Report – Mr. Culp had nothing at this time.

Cicero/Jackson Township Plan Commission Report – Mr. Zawadzki was not present.

Town Engineer Report

1. Wastewater – Mr. Bryant stated that Reynolds continues to work to finish the punch list. Pay Application No. 24 was submitted for Council review as well as a certificate of substantial completion for discussion at the next council meeting.
2. 2026 Community Crossings Matching Grant (CCMG) –
   a. Mr. Bryant stated that punch list work is complete. The contractor submitted Pay Application No. 2 for Council review. After a brief discussion, Mr. Hayden made a motion to approve Pay Application No. 2. Mr. Johnson seconded, motion carried 5-0.
   b. Mr. Bryant addressed the issue at 79 E Jackson Street concerning the handicapped parking spot in front of the resident's home. After much consideration and conversation, Council and Mr. Bryant believe that is the best spot for handicapped parking spot which is required by the CCMG program. Council consensus is to leave the handicapped parking spot where it is.
3. Morse Landing Drive Underdrain Project – Mr. Bryant is working to get the contractor back to reseed as well as some miscellaneous punch list items, but they are virtually finished. Mr. Bryant also referenced an issue at 590 Morse Landing Drive repair which needed to be removed and replaced. Contractor requested $6,500.00 to be reimbursed as the rework cost was $9,400.00. Mr. Bryant noted that they directed the contractor to repair and likely at no additional cost following survey of the curb and drive as originally repaired. Some payment could be considered due to the efforts of the contractor, their timely repair and their otherwise-called restoration work. In the end, the Council opted to not reimburse for the work as the error was on the contractor's end. Mr. Bryant will relay that to the contractor.
4. 2027 CCMG – Mr. Bryant stated that the survey is complete and design is moving forward. He has submitted an updated estimate following a design walk through with Director Cooper and Mr. Wilson. Also, options related to the pedestrian crossing on Main Street south were emailed for Council consideration. After much discussion concerning the different options, it was decided that the Council is comfortable with the original at grade crossing on south Main Street. Mr. Everett inquired about signage. Mr. Bryant believes that directional signage can be done. Conversation continued concerning a flashing light and/or raised crosswalks for the north / south Jackson Street crossings. Both were currently included. Council consensus is that the flashing light / push buttons for the Jackson Street crossings would be helpful but to eliminate the raised section and install the at grade. Mr. Hayden inquired from SWU President Freeman if the SWU is comfortable with the stormwater commitment. After a brief discussion, President Freeman is fine with the commitment. Mr. Hayden then made a motion to allow President Cox to sign the 2027 CCMG Financial Commitment Letter. Mr. Johnson seconded, motion carried 5-0.
5. Water – Mr. Bryant stated that the survey is complete. They are moving ahead pulling site plans together and working through preliminary engineering.

Old Business:

a. Tamarack – Ms. Farr with Tamarack HOA was present to continue conversation concerning the wildflowers. After discussion, Council consensus is to address this as a special exception issue as opposed to changing the ordinance.

New Business:

a. Approval to Submit Annexation Petition – Mr. Culp gave a brief description concerning annexation of two contiguous properties to the town as well as the annexation of the properties that the town has purchased for future water works projects. Mr. Hayden made a motion to approve signing the Town of Cicero annexation. Ms. Pearson seconded, motion carried 5-0. Afterwards, Mr. Culp explained that the voluntary annexation petition which was initiated by the property owners, the properties are contiguous and they are all covered by the Town's zoning ordinance. Mr. Culp went on to say that we will have a public hearing on this during the 10-06-2026 Town Council meeting and briefly touched on the 'checklist' for completing the process.
b. Filing Annexation Petitions – Mr. Culp stated that we are filing all three petitions. He reiterated that all are voluntary.
c. Introduction/First Reading of Annexation Ordinance 09-15-2026-01 – Mr. Culp discussed the Introduction of Ordinance 09-15-2026-01.
d. CCMG – Financial Commitment Letter – Covered under Town Engineer Report.
e. Plan Commission Appointment – Mr. Hayden made a motion to appoint Mr. Scherer to the vacant Plan Commission seat. Mr. Johnson seconded, motion carried 5-0.

Miscellaneous:

a. Ms. Pearson commented that the car show at Red Bridge Parks was a big success. She thanked Superintendent Hunter and the Parks Department. She also thanked Mr. Hayden for allowing the volunteer staff to park at the School of Dance.
b. Ms. Pearson invited all to attend the Police and Firefighter Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on 9/20/26 from 5:00-7:00 pm. All proceeds (100%) will be split between the police and fire departments.
c. Cicero resident, Mr. Hahn offered kudos to the Parks Department noting the cleanliness of Red Bridge during the car show.

Comments by Citizens: Cicero resident, Ms. Mayer inquired about vacant residences in Cicero, specifically next to her residence. Council responded that vacant residences are covered by town ordinance i.e. mowing, maintenance, etc. After a brief discussion, Chief Rednour will take a look at it. Mr. Culp added that she might contact Mr. Zawadzki. President Cox will provide contact information.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Johnson made the motion. Ms. Pearson seconded, motion carried 5-0.

Signatures on Official Documents!

Signatures of Cicero Town Council

AYE		NAY
_____	Joseph R Cox	_____
_____	Jacob T Everett	_____
_____	Eric C Hayden	_____
_____	Dennis D Johnson	_____
_____	Emily K Pearson	_____

Attested: _____
Rhonda Gary, Clerk Treasurer

The Next Cicero Town Council Meeting will be on October 6, 2026 at 7:00 PM at Cicero Town Hall.