

STATE OF NEW YORK
ONONDAGA COUNTY
TOWN OF CICERO

SS:

The Cicero Town Board held their Organizational Meeting on Friday, January 2, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cicero Town Hall, 8236 Brewerton Road, Cicero, NY 13039.

PRESENT: Jessica Zambrano, Supervisor
Tim Burtis, Deputy Supervisor
Mike Becallo, Councilor
C. Vernon Conway, Councilor
Mark Venesky, Councilor

OTHERS PRESENT: Terri Walsh, Highway Secretary
Sharon Edick, Receiver of Taxes
Jody Rogers, Director of Parks and Recreation
Jolee Olszewski, Secretary to Supervisor
Joseph Snell, Police Chief
Stephen Snell, O'Brien & Gere, Town Engineer
Robert Germain, Germain & Germain, Town Attorney
Robert Smith, Planning Board Chair
Tracy Cosilmon, Town Clerk

ABSENT: Chris Woznica, Highway Superintendent

The meeting was opened at 10:05 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance by Supervisor Zambrano. Councilor Conway requested a moment of silence to honor our military troops in harm's way.

Supervisor Zambrano indicated where the fire exits were in the event of an emergency and requested that all electronic devices such as cell phones be silenced.

Supervisor Zambrano said the board would be going into executive session after public input.

Supervisor Zambrano had proof of publication for the meeting. She emphasized that the decisions made here today are not necessarily irreversible, they can be changed.

OFFICIAL RULES OF PROCEDURE – ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution that Roberts Rules of Order be the official rules of procedure at Town Board Meetings, subject to the Rules provided by Town law and like Statute which shall prevail (except that there shall be no second reading of resolutions at Town Board Meetings unless the same is requested, and that there shall be no votes taken when the question of a pending resolution is called unless an objection is stated to voting upon such resolution forthwith). Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Councilor Becallo asked who officiates over the Robert's Rules.

Supervisor Zambrano said she officiates at the meeting and the Town attorney lets us know when we are deviating from Robert's Rules.

Robert Germain said Supervisor Zambrano is in charge of the meeting. If there is a question about a rule or an interpretation then they can ask him, if he doesn't know he will look it up or try to.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

APPOINTMENTS BY SUPERVISOR:

Deputy Supervisor – Tim Burtis
Secretary to Town Supervisor – Jolee Olszewski

LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS, BY SUPERVISOR:

Deputy Supervisor Burtis – Comptroller, Fire Departments, Safety Committee, Anti-Harassment Committee
Councilor Conway – Highway Department, Codes Office, Planning Board, Town Clerk
Councilor Becallo – Youth Bureau Parks & Recreation, Drainage, Zoning Board of Appeals, Employee Handbook
Councilor Venesky – Brewerton Revitalization, Economic Development, Police, Justice, Collective Bargaining, Board of Ethics
Supervisor Zambrano – Assessor, Tax Receiver, Board of Assessment Review, Senior Advocacy, North Syracuse School District

SECURITY OFFICER DESIGNATION:

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution to designate Chief Joseph Snell as Security Officer for the entire Town Hall Complex. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

FIRE DEPARTMENTS COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR DESIGNATION:

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution to designate David Cowburn as Communications Coordinator for the five Fire Departments serving the Town of Cicero. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 4 and Abstained – 1. *Motion carried.* Councilor Becallo abstaining.

TOWN BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to designate the second and fourth Wednesday of each month for Regular Town Board Meetings to begin at 6:30 p.m., except that there will be one Town Board Meeting for the months of July and August to be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2015 and Wednesday, August, 26, 2015. There will be no Regular Town Board Meeting on Wednesday, November 11, 2015, in observance of Veterans' Day, Wednesday, November 25, 2015, in observance of Thanksgiving. There will be a Regular Town Board Meeting held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015. Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

TOWN HALL BUSINESS HOURS:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to establish the business hours at the Cicero Town Hall for 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

TOWN HALL CLOSED – HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the 2015 Town Hall Holiday Schedule as follows:

January 1	Thursday	New Year’s Day
January 19	Monday	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 16	Monday	Presidents’ Day
April 3	Friday	Good Friday
May 25	Monday	Memorial Day
July 3	Friday	In observance of Independence Day
September 7	Monday	Labor Day
October 12	Monday	Columbus Day
November 11	Wednesday	Veterans Day (observed)
November 26	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day
November 27	Friday	In observance of Thanksgiving
December 24	Thursday	Christmas Eve
December 25	Friday	Christmas Day
December 31	Thursday	1/2 day in observance of New Year’s Eve

Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Non Union Employees: Two Floating Holidays and Four Personal Days at the discretion of Department Heads.

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

ALTERNATE ENGINEER FOR THE TOWN:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint LJR Engineering Firm, (Alex Wisniewski), as alternate engineers to serve at the discretion of the town board for a one year term (01/01/15 thru 12/31/15). Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

APPOINTMENT PART-TIME SOLE ASSESSOR:

Supervisor Zambrano said the shared services agreement for the Assessor with the Town of Salina came to an end two days ago, so we did go out and recruit for a part-time sole assessor. There was an interview panel and there were five candidates; most of those candidates wanted to work part time. In any event, the Board had made a decision to hire a part-time assessor and they wanted that they be present within the town hall every day and the person that they selected agreed to work 5 hours per day. Mr. Becallo was part of the process, along with the outgoing assessor. The candidate is Karen Tavernese and she has experience, and she is qualified.

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to hire Karen Tavernese as a part-time Sole Assessor at the starting salary of \$42,500.00, effective January 2, 2015. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARIES:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to adopt the annual salaries for Town Personnel for 2015 as follows:

Supervisor	Jessica Zambrano	\$45,833.00
Deputy Supervisor	Tim Burtis	\$10,885.00
Councilors	Mike Becallo	\$10,885.00
	C. Vernon Conway	\$10,885.00
	Mark Venesky	\$10,885.00
Judges	Douglas DeMarche', Jr.	\$38,204.00
	David Bruffett, Jr.	\$38,204.00
Town Clerk	Tracy Cosilmon	\$51,110.00
Receiver of Taxes	Sharon Edick	\$51,110.00
Highway Superintendent	Chris Woznica	\$61,516.00

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

BLANKET UNDERTAKING:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution approving the Blanket Undertaking Bond covering all Town employees as required by Chapter 17 of the Town Law; and it is further RESOLVED, that the Town Justices are specifically covered under said Blanket Undertaking, as required by Public Officers Law Section 11(2). Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

APPOINTMENTS TOWN OFFICERS:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint the following Town Officers and their annual salaries as follows:

Police Chief	Joseph Snell	\$78,147.30
Director of Youth Bureau, Parks & Recreation	Jody Rogers	\$71,606.04
Comptroller	Shirlie Stuart	\$69,350.82
Director of Codes Enforcement	Richard Hooper	\$63,750.00

Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 1. *Motion carried.*

BUDGET OFFICER:

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint Jim Rowley as Budget Officer for the town at an annual fee of \$8,000.00. Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Ayes – 4 and Noes – 1. *Motion carried.* Councilor Becallo voting no.

PLANNING BOARD CHAIR AND PAYRATE:

Deputy Supervisor Burtis said he had a letter that was written by Bob Smith to the Town Board that is dated December 30rd, and asked that it be entered into the records:

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December 30, 2014

Town Board
Town of Cicero
Route 11-Brewerton Road
Cicero, New York 13039

RE: Ethics Board Opinion

Dear Town Board Members,

Thank you for your consideration of my being reappointed to be Chair of the Planning Board.

Attached you will find a copy of an email from Carl Putzer, Board of Ethics Attorney to William Bradley, Chair of the Board of Ethics, regarding the ethics complaint filed against me by Robert George several months ago. In that complaint George named several individuals to be investigated. I have also attached a receipt to show I paid for the copies.

Regarding the charges filed against me, the Ethics Board found that there were insufficient facts sustaining the allegations and that they (Ethics Board) decided not to explore those allegations any further, basically rejecting the complaint against the undersigned. Going further Mr. Putzer states "They were in essence dismissed against him". In addition, Mr. Putzer goes on to opinion that "in hindsight" they should have notified me of their findings, as they did others where they rejected the complaints filed against them. I agree with Mr. Putzer that everyone should be treated the same by the Board of Ethics, anything else would seem to be disingenuous to their mission.

Inasmuch as they (Ethics Board) could not find any example of wrong doing or conflicts of interest throughout the eight years I have served as a Member of the Planning Board, two as Chair of the Board, they have apparently decided to "convict" my profession. As everyone knows I am a licensed (by the State of New York) Real Estate Associate Broker and a REALTOR®. I would like it noted that a former Supervisor, one other Member of the Planning Board, Members of the Board of Assessment Review, and others serving in town government are licensed individuals. Their concerns are based on false information as were the allegations against me.

1. There isn't any confidential or privileged information available to anyone on the Planning Board regardless of whether they are a Member or Chair. As soon as an application is received, or additional information on an existing application is received it is transmitted (via email) to all Members of the Planning Board, the Planning Board Engineer, the Planning Board Attorney and generally all Members of the Town Board. The information is subject to FOIL as soon as the Codes Office is in receipt of it. Simply put there isn't any "confidential" information available for use by anyone regardless of their occupation.
2. By far the majority of the applications presented to the Planning Board are for commercial development. I have avoided all commercial opportunities since serving on the Town of Cicero Planning Board. Not only have I refused commercial real estate opportunities in the Town of Cicero I have refused those opportunities in other towns, where I do not serve, to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest.

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3. The Board of Ethics Cicero expressed concern that I represent a homebuilder that develops communities in the Town of Cicero. First that is false, my homebuilder client does not develop land for homebuilding or other purposes. Second, my homebuilder client is not and is not planning on building homes in the Town of Cicero and we do not have any building lots available in Cicero at this time. As a matter of fact, no new home developments are even proposed for the Town of Cicero, in addition I am not aware of any being considered at this time. That should be an area of real concern for everyone in town government. IF my homebuilder client were to decide to explore developing in the Town of Cicero or committed to taking blocks of building lots in a development being proposed in the Town of Cicero I would obviously recuse myself from making a determination on those developments.

Some of the Ethics Board's concerns could have been addressed before they issued an opinion. However, I was never given the opportunity, or the courtesy, to appear before them to explain what a Planning Board does, how the Board operates, or explain how my profession operates and the nature of my individual practice in real estate. Most likely the Ethics Board is unaware that the New York State Department of State closely regulates our industry and that as a REALTOR® Member I subscribe, as do all REALTORS® to a strict Code of Ethics including mandatory ongoing education regarding ethics most likely REALTORS® would be among the most qualified in recognizing potential conflicts and resolving those conflicts before they occur.

Hopefully this answers the Board's concerns regarding the suitability of someone in the real estate profession serving in town government.

Thank you for your consideration,


Robert Smith

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Bob Smith as Planning Board Chair (01/01/15 to 12/31/15), at a rate of \$214.20 per session. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 4 and Noes – 1. *Motion carried.* Councilor Becallo voting no.

RE-APPOINT PAT HONORS AS PLANNING BOARD MEMBER:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Pat Honors as a Planning Board Member for a 5 year term (01/01/15 to 12/31/19). Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

RE-APPOINT SHARON MAY AS (AD-HOC) MEMBER FOR PLANNING BOARD:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Sharon May as Ad-hoc member for the Planning Board for a 1 year term (01/01/15 to 12/31/15). Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS CHAIR AND PAYRATE:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Gary Natali as Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals (01/01/15 to 12/31/15), at a rate of \$214.20 per occasion.

Supervisor Zambrano said Mr. Natali has requested that the rates for the Zoning Board of Appeals be equal to those of the Planning Board. The planning board rates did not increase this year from last year, so they've held steady so she wanted to amend the motion to reflect a salary of \$214.20, which is equal to the Planning Board Chair salary or fees.

Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

RE-APPOINT GARY PALLADINO AS ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MEMBER

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Gary Palladino as a Zoning Board of Appeals Member for a 5 year term (01/01/15 to 12/31/19). Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

RE-APPOINT RITA WICKS AS (AD-HOC) MEMBER FOR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Rita Wicks as Ad-hoc member for the Zoning Board of Appeals for a 1 year term (01/01/15 to 12/31/15). Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ATTORNEY AND PAYRATE:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint Terry Kirwan as Attorney for the Zoning Board of Appeals at an annual rate of \$5,000.00 per year for 2015. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW CHAIR AND PAYRATE:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint Jerilee Stevens as Chair of the Assessment Review Board (01/01/15 to 12/31/15), at a rate of \$147.90 per session. Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

RE-APPOINT JOHN BLACKHAM AS MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint John Blackham as a member for the Board of Assessment Review for a 5 year term (01/01/15 to 12/31/19). Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

BOARD OF ETHICS CHAIR AND ATTORNEY:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to reappoint Bill Bradley as Chair of the Board of Ethics, effective for a one year-term (01/01/15 to 12/31/15). Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

Supervisor Zambrano said they should also make a motion to reimburse the attorney that they use to establish the rate for 2015. The rate has been \$150.00 per session, the Ethics Board can determine whomever they want as attorney but they should establish the rate.

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution that we maintain the current rate for the Ethics Board Attorney at \$150.00 per session. Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

ANTI-HARASSMENT COMMITTEE:

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint the following individuals to the Anti-Harassment Committee for a one-year term: Toni Brauchle as Chair, and Committee Members to include Dave Balcer, Diane Browning, Diane Celluci, Bill Lawrence, Justin Pettersen, and Bonnie Smith. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

2015 NYS ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS ANNUAL DUES:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to pay \$1,500.00 for the NYS Association of Towns annual dues. Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

2015 BENEFIT ELIGIBILITY:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution that the 2015 permanent part-time positions must work 1040 hours per year to be eligible for part-time benefits and the 2015 full-time positions must work 40 hours per week to be eligible for full-time employee benefits. Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint Jolee Olszewski as the Director of Purchasing for the town. Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Councilor Becallo said shouldn't the director of purchasing be the comptroller.

Supervisor Zambrano said no, that it has to be a separate person.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

RE-APPOINTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBER:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Lori Lake-Toms as member to Parks & Recreation Commission for a 7 year term to expire on 12/31/2021. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

RE-APPOINTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Lori Lake-Toms as Chairperson to Parks & Recreation Commission for a one year term to expire on 12/31/2015. Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

RE-APPOINT RUTH BEASLEY AS VICE CHAIRPERSON TO THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Ruth Beasley as Vice Chairperson to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a one year term to expire on 12/31/2015. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

GREATER CICERO COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS FOR YOUTH BUREAU DELETIONS AND APPOINTMENTS AND RE-APPOINT VINCE HOLLOPETER AS CHAIRMAN:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to remove Diedra Keefe and Stephanie Parody from the Greater Cicero Community Connections for Youth Bureau. To add Wendy Ramsay, Reach CNY and to reappoint Wayne Morris, Reba Spencer, John Rice, Alis Sefick and Wendy Ramsay for the term 01/01/2015 through 12/31/2017, and re-appoint Vince Hollopeter as the 2015 Chairperson. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

OTHER TOWN POSITIONS:

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the following annual amounts for 2015:

Anthony Desimone	Bingo Inspector	\$ 4,744.00 per year
Kristen Ryder	Planning Board Clerk	\$ 207.00 per session
Ann Marie August	Zoning Board of Appeals Clerk	\$ 150.00 per session
Lori Lake-Toms	Parks & Recreation Comm. Clerk	\$ 90.00 per session
Terri Terino-Dewey	Board of Assessment Review Clerk	\$ 12.50/hour
Tracy Sadowski	Board of Assessment Review Greeter	\$ 10.00/hour
*Thomas Edick	Clerk I - Tax Receiver's Office	\$ 14.33/hour
*Sheri Hollenbeck	Clerk I - Tax Receiver's Office	\$ 14.33/hour
Lee Mazzye	Clerk I – Justice Office	\$ 14.57/hour–max.(416)
_____	Clerk I – Records Management	\$ 14.00/hour–max.(535)
Hank Schrenko	Court Attendant	\$ 12.28/hour
Joe Ziemba	Court Attendant	\$ 12.28/hour

*Max. 800 hours for both positions, scheduling discretion by the Tax Receiver

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.
 Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

TOWN HISTORIAN:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to approve Tom Mafrici as Town Historian at an annual amount of \$500.00 and have the Supervisor execute the 2015 contract. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

APPROVAL OF TOWN CUSTODIAN CONTRACT AND ANNUAL AMOUNT:

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the custodial contract for Richard Boisey at the annual amount of \$13,673.00 for cleaning the Town Hall and an annual rate of \$6,790.00 to clean the Senior Center and to authorize the Supervisor to execute the 2015 contract. Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

APPROVAL OF POLICE AND HIGHWAY CUSTODIAN CONTRACT AND ANNUAL AMOUNT:

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the Police and Highway custodial cleaning contract with Imre Uhos, Blue Seal Janitorial at the amount of \$820.00 per month and to authorize the Supervisor to execute the 2015 contract. Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

INVESTMENT FIRMS FOR THE TOWN:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to designate NY Class, J.P. Morgan Chase, M&T Bank and First Niagara as investment firms for the town. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE CARRIER FOR FULL TIME EMPLOYEES

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution to approve Excellus Simply Blue Plus Platinum 2, the Town’s Health insurance carrier and Blue Cross/Blue Shield for dental coverage and each employee must pay contributions. Non Union employees will pay 8% and all others are pursuant to the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Councilor Becallo asked who the broker of record was.

Supervisor Zambrano said they used Damian Ulatowski to help in review of the plans. Our broker of record for all our liability and other insurance coverages are through Hank Chapman.

Ayes – 4 and Noes – 1. *Motion carried.* Councilor Becallo voting no.

OFFICIAL TOWN NEWSPAPER:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to designate the Star Review, (Sarah Hall) as the official Town newspaper with Syracuse.com as an alternate. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

2015 MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution that all town employees using their own vehicles for town business shall be allowed a mileage reimbursement rate of 57.5 cents per mile, as adopted by the Internal Revenue Service, when authorized by the Town Board for such use during the year 2015. This amount is subject to change in the event that the Internal Revenue changes this amount. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

2015 PETTY CASH ALLOTMENTS:

The motion was made by Councilor Venesky to approve the following petty cash allotments:

Town Clerk	Tracy Cosilmon	\$200.00 change bank
Highway Superintendent	Christopher Woznica	\$200.00 petty cash
Central Petty Cash	Jolee Olszewski	\$200.00 petty cash
Receiver of Taxes	Sharon Edick	\$250.00 change bank
Youth Bureau, Park & Recreation	Jody Rogers	\$200.00 petty cash
Court Clerk (Judge Bruffett, Jr.)	Teresa Luke	\$150.00 change bank
Court Clerk (Judge DeMarche’)	Michele Benedict	\$150.00 change bank
Zoning/Planning Office	Richard Hooper	\$200.00 change bank

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATION FOR OTHER CHECKS:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to authorize all checks to require the signature of the Town Supervisor or Deputy Supervisor and the signature of the Comptroller or Deputy Comptroller. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

PHOTO COPY FEE:

Councilor Venesky said the \$.25 per copy is just not in line with what other municipalities and organizations are charging. He asked Tracy Cosilmon if we are held by law to a certain charge.

Tracy Cosilmon said she has looked into the past and it was not a town law.

Robert Germain said it's a state law.

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to approve charging \$.25 per page for photo copies. Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

COORDINATOR FOR HANDICAPPED REGULATIONS:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint Richard Hooper as Coordinator for Handicapped Regulations. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

APPOINT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW RECORDS ACCESS OFFICER AND APPEALS OFFICER:

Councilor Conway moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint Tracy Cosilmon, Records Access Officer per Freedom of Information Law and Jody Rogers as the Appeals Officer. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR DOG CONTROL SERVICES:

Supervisor Zambrano said that our Dog Control Officer, Barb Chiarizia has decided that she didn't want to be involved in that activity as much anymore so we did go out and try to find someone to share the services with. There were a couple of examples in the county in which Camillus is providing dog services for Lysander, and she thinks there are a couple of others. The Supervisor of Clay and the Mayor of North Syracuse, they meet periodically to talk about sharing services and this is one of the issues that came up. So we have entered into an agreement for the 30 or 40 dogs per year (that is the volume of animals that the dog control officer has handled). This inter-municipal agreement that she is seeking approval for should result in a big savings of several thousand dollars and right now, because Clay has a full time and a part time, plus two vehicles for transporting dogs. They are proposing to charge this town \$75.00 per dog pick-up. The agreement that includes North Syracuse rate will be \$50.00 and the difference in the rate is because of the large size of Cicero compared to North Syracuse. This agreement we thought we would try for a year to see how it works out. It should save everyone a lot of money; especially Cicero.

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to approve an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Town of Clay to provide comprehensive Dog Control Services for the Town of Cicero, effective for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, at a rate of \$75.00 per each dog pick-up; and to authorize the Supervisor to sign the agreement. Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

2015 CITIZEN BOARD MEMBERS:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the following Citizen Board member’s fees:

Zoning Board of Appeals/Ad-Hoc	\$105.57 per occasion
Planning Board	\$105.57 per occasion
Board of Assessment Review	\$ 95.00 per occasion

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

APPROVE SALARIES OF DESIGNATED APPOINTEES

The following are appointments for 2015, which do not require Town Board approval:

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the following employee salaries effective 01/01/2015.

Jolee Olszewski, Secretary to Supervisor	\$33,847.68
Bonnie Smith, Deputy Town Clerk	\$34,624.92
Sharon Krasowski, Deputy Receiver of Taxes	\$37,631.88
Michele Benedict, Justice Clerk	\$37,994.92
Teresa Luke, Justice Clerk	\$37,994.92
Terri Walsh, Secretary to Highway Superintendent	\$36,546.60

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

EMPLOYEE SALARIES 2015:

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the following employee salaries for 2015, effective 01/01/2015:

Judy Dickson, Senior Center Coordinator	\$39,679.02
Margaret Hauenstein, Recreation Attendant	\$ 12.24 per hour-Max. 1040 hours
Nancy Noble, Recreation Attendant	\$ 13.43 per hour-Max. 1040 hours
Toni’Lyn Brauchle, Youth Services Coordinator	\$42,506.46
Micaela Lara-Gonzalez, Rec. Att./Center Monitor	\$ 12.00 per hour-Max. 925 hours
Joseph Santimaw, Jr., Rec. Att./Center Monitor	\$ 10.50 per hour-Max. 725 hours
Diane Cellucci, Deputy Comptroller/Account Clerk 1	\$49,111.98
Angela Kleist, Clerk I (Police Dept.)	\$ 14.62 per hour - Max 1040 hours
Candy Chinn, Clerk I (Police Dept.)	\$ 12.48 per hour - Max 1040 hours

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

ALL UNION EMPLOYEE SALARIES:

All Union Employee Salaries are subject to current Teamsters, PBA and CSEA Contracts/Agreements.

For PBA, CSEA and Teamster employees/salaries please see attachments “A”, “B”, and “C” included at the end of the meeting minutes.

The contracts/agreements can be viewed on the Town’s website: www.ciceronewyork.net under Public Information or at the Town Clerk’s Office.

SENIOR ADVOCATE ASSIGNMENTS:

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Diane Browning as Senior Advocate with a start date of January 1, 2015, at a pay rate of \$3,500.00 per year. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

Supervisor Zambrano moved the adoption of a resolution to re-appoint Katie Bloss, Neighborhood Advisor Catholic Charities for senior advocacy; she is based at the Senior Center. Motion was seconded by Councilor Venesky.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

HAYLOR FREYER & COON AS BROKERS OF RECORD FOR THE TOWN:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to appoint Haylor, Freyer & Coon as Broker of Record for the Town of Cicero for 2015. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

Supervisor Zambrano said that the Board would not be reconvening after executive session that day.

TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the minutes from the Regular Town Board Meeting held on December 10, 2014. Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT NUMBERS 50, 51 and 52:

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution to approve Abstract numbers 50, 51 and 52. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

(Abstracts can be viewed on the Town's website: www.ciceronewyork.net)

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Supervisor Zambrano said that there were no budget modifications/amendments.

BUILDING SECURITY:

Supervisor Zambrano said Richard Hooper has worked with Tracy Cosilmon for enhanced security in the codes office and the supervisor's office. Tracy Cosilmon met with the locksmiths to estimate the situation and to provide quotes. As she understands it, these are remote locks. If you go into the codes office you will note that the clerks there cannot get to their door to lock it and they would have to go around. There is a concern because there was a couple of occasions this year with loud voices, some threats, and some people coming in so this is an enhanced security measure for the codes office and for the supervisor's office. We did get three quotes but the quote from Glad is only for two locks instead of three.

Supervisor Zambrano tabled the issue until the next meeting.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Councilor Venesky moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the following:

- \$298,000.00 to American Rock Salt for the purchase of 6400 tons of salt
- \$5,000.00 to Barrett Paving for the purchase of 53 tons of MACS cold patch

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Councilor Becallo asked if the money for the salt was from leftover money from 2014.

Supervisor Zambrano told him no, that we had spent all the money for 2014; we are now into the new year.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT:

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to approve the following:

- **Skyway Park Project SEQRA**
Project: Improvements to ballfields at Skyway Park with DASNY (Dormitory Authority State of New York)
Grant \$125,000.00

SEQRA Negative Declaration: Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution that the application of the Town of Cicero for grant funding from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York for the Renovation and Improvements to the athletic fields at Skyway Park, 5950 E. Taft Road, North Syracuse is a Type II with a completed Environmental Assessment Form. The proposed funding application and project involves no other permit granting agency outside the Town. The proposed application for funding *will not* have a significant negative effect upon the environment and *does not* require the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

Jody Rogers said we have a project ongoing with Skyway Park with North Syracuse Little League and this is Phase II of that project. We put together a mini master plan about five years ago. Their program, North Syracuse Little League, is growing and there is some improvements needed for the park, basically extending fields because of the new equipment

that is being used; the new bats that the kids are using, the flight of the ball is further so what we want to do is improve one of the fields by extending the outfield for the girls program and create a new field by eliminating one of the fields that is in the three fields, move that field, and then leave open an area that down the road we can put a larger playground unit in for the residents across the street because the residential area is growing with new families. This project is about \$125,000.00. We have about \$10,000 to \$15,000 guaranteed in-kind from engineering services through the North Syracuse Little League individuals to do all of the documents, the plans, and all of that; the town's parks and recreation sources will do some in-kind. We are hoping to start the project July 1st after the little league season is over and be done through the construction season.

- **Disposal of 2004 Ford Senior Citizen Bus by sending it to Onondaga County Auction**

Councilor Becallo moved the adoption of a resolution to dispose of the 2004 Ford Senior Citizen Bus by sending it to Onondaga County Auction. Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Ayes – 5 and Noes – 0. *Motion carried.*

Councilor Venesky asked Jody Rogers when the bus goes to the county auction if we receive the proceeds, and what did she anticipate what we'll get back on the bus.

Jody Rogers said she didn't know but she had just sent a truck with a plow and we got \$8,800.00 for it by going through county auction. Basically, they have the ability to advertise it, we pay for a small portion of advertising but it's minimal.

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AGREEMENTS:

Supervisor Zambrano said they have been working on these agreements for a couple of months; there are a couple of modifications in here to allow consideration of making changes in boundaries, or changes in services or consolidation, and also to request financial information from the fire departments.

Robert Germain said these are standard agreements; most of the firms follow the same format.

Supervisor Zambrano said there are five agreements, one for each of the fire departments and the entire town board needs to sign these if they pass.

Deputy Supervisor Burtis moved the adoption of a resolution authorizing the Supervisor and Councilors to execute the 2015 Fire Protection Agreements as presented for the Brewerton, Bridgeport, Cicero, North Syracuse, and South Bay Fire Protection Districts. Motion was seconded by Supervisor Zambrano.

Ayes – 4 and Abstaining -1. *Motion carried.* Councilor Becallo abstained.

PUBLIC INPUT:

A resident asked Councilor Becallo why he abstained from a fire department budget vote in November.

Councilor Becallo said it was because it's a conflict of interest because he is a firefighter.

The resident asked Councilor Becallo if anybody else on the board is associated with the fire departments was he prepared to bring them up to the Board of Ethics.

Councilor Becallo said that was up to the board.

The resident said actually it is up to any town board member, or town employee, or municipal officer. She asked Councilor Becallo why he abstained from the town budget vote.

Councilor Becallo said he didn't abstain, he said no because he didn't approve of the budget.

The resident told Councilor Becallo that at the last meeting he voted no on all three abstracts, and not just the one with the W-2 adjustments in question. She asked him why he said no to all three and not just the one that he disagreed with.

Councilor Becallo said he would have to look that up.

The resident asked if the town board has to vote to accept a donation.

Supervisor Zambrano said she believed so.

The resident asked if there was a vote to accept Councilor Becallo's donation.

Councilor Becallo said no, he was planning on doing that at the next meeting.

The resident said the town board minutes that were approved today said that he already made the donation.

Councilor Becallo said he didn't believe it did.

The resident said that she did believe so. She read from the top of page 8 of the minutes: *Councilor Becallo said he already donated to the parks & recreation department – this was asked to be a salary reduction.*

Councilor Becallo said that was for the trees - \$200.00 for the trees at the Central Park project. In those minutes he was making a statement, in fact he did - he already donated.

Jody Rogers said they had approved that donation (for the trees).

Councilor Becallo said it was a while ago. He was making a statement. In fact he did - he already donated.

The resident asked if that was already approved by the town board.

Councilor Becallo said yes.

The resident said it was not clear in the minute, that's why they should videotape.

Supervisor Zambrano asked if everyone agreed that these minutes need to be modified a little bit to reflect that.

Councilor Becallo – Just to specify that I already donated. I donated for the trees at Central Park and I did not, you know, I wanted an actual salary cut, but again I am prepared to donate at the next town board meeting my reduction in salary, so if you can put that on the next town board meeting agenda as well I will have the check ready.

Please note – on the upper part of page 8 of the December 10th Regular Town Board Meeting it says Councilor Becallo said he already donated to the parks & recreation department – this was asked to be a salary reduction. From the actual tape recording Councilor Becallo says (verbatim): *I have already donated to the parks and recreation department – this was asked to be a salary reduction.*

Per the board's request that part of Councilor Becallo's statement will now say:

Councilor Becallo said *I have already donated to parks & recreation department* [the Town Board passed a resolution on August 27, 2014 to accept his donation of \$200.00 for a tree that was planted at the new playground at Central Park]. *This* [he wants to donate \$1,250.00 to the Brewerton Revitalization Project for handicap person accessibility] *was asked to be a salary reduction.*

Councilor Becallo said this was for a while ago when he donated for the trees. Councilor Becallo asked for clarification in the minutes that he had already donated for the trees at Central Park. He had wanted an actual salary cut of \$1,250.00 and to donate that \$1,250.00 to the Brewerton Revitalization Project for handicap person accessibility.

Judy Boyke asked why there was a partial payment to Syracuse Haulers on Abstract #50 for \$127,971.19. Also, on that same abstract for Haylor, Freyer & Coon unallocated insurance of \$221.00.

Supervisor Zambrano said she would look into it.

Deputy Supervisor Burtis told Judy Boyke that for the insurance that's the new 2015 Mack truck. The unallocated insurance was because we weren't planned for it.

Judy Boyke also asked about AAA Quick Plows & Lawns for 6041 McKinley, Code Enforcement Contract \$190.05.

Supervisor Zambrano said she would look into it, but it would be helpful if Judy gave these questions ahead of time so that they could provide the answers to her.

Judy Boyke asked about the Cicero Fire District's shortage dues from other funds of \$34,000.00. She said for the Onondaga County Water disposal it just talks about disposal of wastewater, she didn't recall ever seeing that on there before.

Jody Rogers explained that was for the septic holding tanks at Central Park; we have a haulers charge and then we have a county charge for septic wastewater.

Judy Boyke said she sees that we are buying town hall town employees clothing; particularly the zoning office. She asked if all the other offices or any other members of the town, such as the zoning or planning board have an opportunity to have clothing.

Supervisor Zambrano said that the reason the codes office gets clothing is because that's part of their collective-bargaining contract.

Judy Boyke said that she knows that the planning and zoning board people do go out.

Supervisor Zambrano explained that those people are not under collective-bargaining, and she would find it unlikely that the board would approve to buy their clothing.

Judy Boyke said that the planning and zoning board people do go out and investigate situations within the town.

Supervisor Zambrano said they have never asked.

Judy Boyke asked about the Cicero shortfall of funds for the fire department.

Supervisor Zambrano said she did have information about that, but not having the specifics in front of her she did not want to provide an answer.

Judy Boyke said she would appreciate that information at the next meeting.

Supervisor Zambrano said she would like specifics from Judy Boyke, such as: a line number, or the check number, or the invoice number, on specifically what Judy is looking for.

Judy Boyke said she'd be happy to send that to her. She said she noticed that in the Organizational Meeting that she does not have a safety committee, they just have Joe Snell as the safety chairperson/advisor so to speak. She asked if they have a safety committee.

Supervisor Zambrano said we had a safety committee. They are in the process of re-organizing the committee and are waiting on recommendations from some outside consultants.

Judy Boyke said when they made a resolution to make the planning and zoning board of appeals equal shouldn't they have made a budget modification first, or at least approved it through a budget before they made the approval for the salary.

Supervisor Zambrano said she was not sure that that's required. The funds are there, it was verified; it was a matter of the Board to decide what rate they wanted to pay.

Judy Boyke said she understood that, but she approved a budget and that was a budget line item.

Supervisor Zambrano said it was a budget line item, but she believes an entire amount for the year, not specific to how much would be reimbursed per session.

Judy Boyke said they made a change on the zoning board of appeals and planning board salary so why would they not change the clerks to make them equal as well.

Supervisor Zambrano said they didn't change the planning board. They kept the fees the same and they made the zoning board of appeals be equal with the planning board. Mr. Natali, who is the Chair, did not engage in a conversation about the change for this, it's clerical.

Judy Boyke said she would think that would only be fair.

Supervisor Zambrano said she was going to leave that up to Mr. Natali right now.

Judy Boyke said she could speak to the reason why the town is not being considered for building. She said it was because of the taxes, because of the infrastructure, because of many things that they have decided that Clay is more lucrative to be building at right now and it's pretty obvious.

Judy Boyke asked Robert Germain what constitutes an illegal meeting with the town supervisor and councilors. Is it not when there are more than two that it is supposed to be posted as an open meeting?

Supervisor Zambrano asked Judy if she was why they have regular meeting business during this session.

Judy Boyke said no. She was asking what the legality is to having a meeting of the supervisor and more than one councilor.

Robert Germain said the majority would be the thing. So any time you have the majority of the town board present it would have to be advertised.

Judy Boyke said so three, the supervisor and two councilors, would have had to have been advertised.

Supervisor Zambrano asked Judy Boyke when that happened.

Judy Boyke said today, in her office.

Supervisor Zambrano asked if she meant prior to the meeting.

Judy Boyke said yes in Supervisor Zambrano's office, and also at Panera Bread. Judy said her husband ran into Councilor Conway, and obviously they were not talking about Christmas presents. Supervisor Zambrano, Councilor Venesky and Councilor Conway had a meeting at Panera Bread. Judy said she would so like that noted in the minutes.

Robert Germain said there are rules that allow for political caucuses, members of the same party and so on. He said this was the first he had heard of this.

Don Snyder said it was the beginning of the year. We have passed the budget. The budget includes nothing for the roads. We spent money for the Cornell Roads Study Program; it said we needed to spend at least \$800,000 a year for our roads. We, three years ago, had \$650,000 in the budget for roads. We hired a young man to do our budget - the budget officer, and he very

cleverly took that \$650,000 out of our budget for 3 years to balance other areas of the budget. And then, we went out and we started to borrow, because legally that is the only thing that you can borrow for - is capital. So we started to borrow for our road program. You all made comments during the budget process that you would put out for referendum in the spring whether we want our roads fixed. A number of people had said to them that we hired you. We voted you in office to make tough decisions. You all made a decision to take \$650,000 out of the budget for roads. You agreed that we need \$800,000 a year to fix our roads, yet you've given the highway superintendent no money for roads in 2015. He is reminding them in the beginning of the year that they need to come up with some funds for road repair. Don't put it out for a referendum because if they do he will remind everybody in this town what this budget process has done to our road rehabilitation program over three years. He said he doesn't think they need to have that out there; they need to make the tough decision. We do need to have our roads fixed. They need to borrow the money. They need to enter into a program where they do borrow that money and we have a road program for the next 10 or 15 years. He's just saying that this is the beginning of the year, let's do it right, let's start now because we need to have that information for the highway superintendent soon because believe it or not even though it's snowing today there will be time in the future, only a few months away, where we will want roads to be worked on. Again, if we have problems with developers in this town that may also be one of the reasons why they're not jumping for joy, because if we in fact have a zero road program, or we increase taxes in a great amount to cover them, that's going to be another incentive for them to go somewhere else.

Deputy Supervisor Burtis asked Don Snyder if he was saying that we should not put it up for referendum.

Don Snyder said no, they should not.

Deputy Supervisor Burtis said well then what should we do.

Don Snyder said they should borrow the money. Put together a program that is going to pay that back; we have money in the budget.

Deputy Supervisor Burtis said Don Snyder wanted us to put a referendum out years ago for the police department.

Don Snyder said yeah.

Deputy Supervisor Burtis said we didn't do that.

Don Snyder said if you are going to do the highway thing, and put it out for referendum then you need to really put two other referendums with it. And it's not because he has problems with either one of them, but if you say to the people do you want the roads fixed then he guesses that they would need to say to the same people (because it would help them in the future for raising taxes) is can we afford a police department for \$2 million dollars a year and can we afford a parks and recreation department for over \$1 million dollars a year? So if you are going to do one then you have to do all three. He is saying that they leave the other two that he just mentioned alone and they in fact come up with a program that covers our roads because we used to have money in the budget for our roads and he objects to the fact that Supervisor Zambrano said the last time we talked about this that the money from the taxes that we used to get for sales tax was for roads. It was not for roads because it was never a line income item on the budget for the highway; it was always in the general budget. So we cannot use that smoking-mirror game that says we lost \$600,000 from the county therefore, we can't fix our roads.

Deputy Supervisor Burtis said we've got members of the board who have said in the past that if they could just know what the residents/constituents want us to do on some of these spending things then that would help them make the decision. He has said right along that that's not really going to happen, people are not really engaged, half of you all made it today but the 33,000 people here are really not engaged with the whole process and it falls on the board to make the decisions. That being said, then we've had some folks who had wanted the police put out for referendum, which doesn't sound like a great idea, so why would you be opposed to putting highway out to referendum because Don wanted the police to go out, Don thought that was a good idea. He asked Don Snyder which one is more important.

Don Snyder said if at the same time when we were talking about whether we could afford a police department, if they had said that we had no money in our budget for roads then he would have had them put the same thing out at that time. But road repair is an essential service, just like our public safety and our police department is, so if we look at the police department as being an essential service (he thinks that's a fair thing to look at it as) then roads are also, so he doesn't think that's something they put up for referendum and say "hey folks do you want your roads fixed?" Don asked what if they say no?

Supervisor Zambrano told Don Snyder that he has made the assumption that that's what the referendum is going to say "do you want your roads fixed" - that's not what the referendum is going to say. Other people can correct her on the concept, but what's being discussed is a multi-year bond program. So it's not that they are saying *yes* or *no* do you want your roads fixed, it's do you want to go out for this amount of money, and that amount of money is yet to be determined for this many number of years. We know we have to fix the roads. One way or another we are going to borrow the money to fix the roads. It's either going to be a multi-year referendum or we go for BAN (bond anticipation note). So it's going to be up to the public to decide if they want us to commit this amount of money (and like she said the amounts and the times are not yet final), as opposed to do you want to do it year by year.

Don Snyder said but we had, in the budget that was being paid for by tax money every year, \$650,000 for roads and that number is now zero.

Supervisor Zambrano said that number started at various points. It started at \$1 million, it went down to \$800,000, it went to \$750,000, it went to \$650,000 and it went to \$500,000. When it came to balancing the budget it came out of paving and we didn't have a planned program to do paving. What they are trying to move towards is a program to pave. So the idea of paving and not having a roads program really isn't on the table, it's how are we going to pay for it. Will the people sustain say a five year plan for \$5 million dollars?

Don Snyder said that number has a lot to do with our tax rate because we know that if we vote *yes* for a 5 or 10 year road program our taxes are going to go up when in fact we used to have \$650,000 in the budget for roads and we were paying for it as we went along. But the Board and our budget officer decided to slowly take that money out of there and move it from being paid for every year to being borrowed against so we wouldn't have to make big decisions on those other areas and we did not increase taxes as we should have.

Supervisor Zambrano said when the \$650,000 got taken away from the county, the sales tax, it allowed a higher level in the highway department, but that \$600,000 allowed for lower levies in A and B. So while it didn't go directly to highway, the \$600,000, it helped to balance that budget but we lost that. Even before we lost the \$600,000 we didn't have a roads program that was formalized where there was an agreement, where there was a commitment, and we have been trying to move in that direction. She thinks that they want what he is saying; it's just how we are going to get there. She thinks the objective is entirely identical - he wants the roads fixed, she wants the roads fixed. She pushed for Cornell Roads. She wants a formal program. The highway department now sees that the Cornell Roads Program is a good program and they see the value to it, how we pay for it right now is the issue under discussion.

Don Snyder said the county told us two years before they were going to take the \$600,000 away that they were going to take it away. We've had three supervisors, and basically three town boards, within that time that never dealt with it until we lost \$600,000, and we instead of making the tough decisions last year, we decided that we were going to have 3 labor contracts that we were going to approve as a town board that have no consolidation, no lay-offs and that you must fill empty positions within "x" number of days. If that's 65 or 64 percent of our budget that just indicates the concern that he and many taxpayers have that we do need our services but at the same time we need to look at whether we can afford all the services we provide and if we can't afford them then we need to reduce them or we need to tell people your taxes are going to go up. The governor is a bully. This 2% tax cap is a bunch of crap and we all know it. IF the state government held to their 2% tax cap then we all probably wouldn't have the problems that we have got right now, but we've got to deal with that. He is just saying that the highway issue better be dealt with starting with their first official meeting because we've got to get that settled and get it out there quick. We can't be having a vote in April or May for the road program that should be starting in April.

Supervisor Zambrano said they agreed with him.

Bob Smith thanked the Board for his reappointment, and also for Mr. Honors to be reappointed. He said what the planning board does is a lot of training, you've got to learn SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review), you've got to learn a number of issues, and it isn't one of those things you can just walk in for. Pat Honors has done a great job and he appreciates their support in reappointing him also. He said recently, over the Christmas holiday, the town received a letter from the fire department regarding demolition and site plan work for their new fire station, which is all well and good. It was brought to his attention and he asked the planning board attorney to look at it; it's regarding lead agency. The planning board, independent of the town board, responded. Normally, customarily, always, we are lead agency in a site plan application and we advised the fire department of that. He reminded people that the planning board process does not include a financial feasibility as to whether a project has any financial feasibility or whether it's too expensive. Our tax as the planning board process is traffic, drainage, storm water, all the fun things; it's strictly a site plan process. He doesn't know if members of the community, or anyone else thinks that there is going to be any discussion regarding financial feasibility or tax and cost; they are not part of the planning board and they won't be entertaining those issues. He said finally, he thought about this a lot over New Years since he had to deal with the ethics thing. He knows absolutely that he didn't commit any ethics violations; however he respects the ethics board. His experience with them wasn't all that great, maybe it's because they are new. There were a number of people who were charged, some people immediately got letters telling them that the charges were going to be ignored. Some people got letters saying that they were going to be investigated – he didn't get anything. It seems awfully political but maybe it's just inexperience. He came in here and foiled because he heard there was a decision filed and he foiled to receive that decision. Rightfully so, he was denied. It was a confidential document - it's an opinion. The town attorney was correct. Mr. Freeman was correct. His foil request was denied and he understands that, having been in government for a long time. However, if we are going to start investigating ethics, and we should, everybody should be cognizant of their responsibilities. He said we all take an oath to uphold the laws, and the state, and the municipality, and the constitution; there are laws that cover what can be released, when it can be released, and what's confidential. He would say to you that if you want to talk about ethics, and you should, then there needs to be an investigation. This isn't a maybe sort of thing. Somebody, one of thirteen people released that confidential document because they didn't agree with the process, but that's not what you are elected for. Somebody, thirteen people; there are five members of the board of ethics, five town board members, the town attorney, the ethics board attorney and the town clerk who had access to those documents. Bob Smith said I submit to you that it is a violation of ethics. And he is sorry, he has his suspicions; Mr. George came down and filed a freedom of information act less than 24 hours after they received the confidential report. He has his suspicions. But, it certainly would seem that given the fact that we are investigating allegations like he is a friend of Mr. Bragman he would think that maybe we should start an investigation as to who was releasing confidential documents. Now they might stand here and say to him that it's only important, it isn't important because it just involved this instance but, it speaks to the ethics and integrity of the people who are running this town. The Board receives confidential employee information in executive sessions. They receive contract negotiation that could harm the town in their negotiations if it's leaked. They receive legal as they are suing people or they are being sued and that seems to happen about every other week but, their attorney will tell them that they go into a meeting and they have an oath of office that they are not going to release that information in an executive session; they make it a point to go into a room, shut the door, and include only certain people. Bob Smith said Mr. Becallo was really big on going after subpoenas and bringing people in. He doesn't know if that was a bullying tactic or whether he was sincere in that, but you have a real ethics problem and there is basically, he believes, 10 people who have to answer the question, who released? They should have to give a statement under the penalty of perjury, who released the statement, not just to the newspaper because he knows the old tricks – you give it to a friend and they fax it to the newspaper and take their phone number off. But at the very least, every one of the thirteen people should sign a statement saying that they didn't give that statement to anyone outside of executive session and that's penalty of perjury also.

(tape change)

Bob Smith said the process should treat every single person the same way. He said he is upset about that because he bought a new car 4 months ago and he wouldn't buy it from Sun Auto because they had an application. He said he had apologized to them and said he couldn't purchase a vehicle from them. He goes out of his way; they get constant ethics training. It's just that here are only, basically, ten people; he is sure that neither of the attorneys are going to risk disbarment or any of that kind of stuff. There is basically ten people that had access, and one of the ten released the document illegally and that's according to the state also.

Deputy Supervisor Burtis said it's a new year and we seem to have the same old problems that we have had and personally sick of it. He said his microphone could be shaking because he is shaking some days when he opens the Star Review or some newspaper and sees him dumb face in there again with the same dumb picture that they've had and it says "Tim Burtis" on there; it is not a lot of fun. He said publicly, and he was ready to make a statement to the Chief, he did not pass out that information, that private information. He has talked to others on the board and asked them point blank "did you pass out that information?" He was shocked when he received an email saying that "I have the ethics report, do you have anything to say about it?" In our Town Code chapter 22.8, to be exact, talks about confidentiality and the business information that they look at and deal with. In our Town Code chapter 22.9 it talks about a municipal officer and the things that we need to do and how we need to act. In 22.9 it talks about that it is a misdemeanor to do what just happened. He understands that we have problems here, we have challenges here and we know what happened in the last executive session. We need to start a new year. Some of us need to get the plank out of our own eye before we start talking about others. He is personally sick of slander. He is sick of rumors. He said if you have a charge, he would say to the public/the residents of Cicero if you have something to say take it to the Onondaga County District Attorney or the State - but good luck with that, we haven't had such good luck with the State Comptroller's office. He would say if you have a charge he no longer wants to see it the newspaper. He no longer wants to see it on Facebook linked in; any of the social media. If you have something to say you take it to the district attorney, otherwise it is a rumor. And he is tired of rumors in this town. He is thankful for emails from residents talking about "please move on" or "please, can't you do something to get people to move on" the only thing that he can do is to say what he is saying - If you have a charge, no problem, you make it; you make it to the legal channels that are provided to you. Anything else he says is a rumor, is hearsay, and we need to move on. Good government has to have some kind of policy and procedure and it's up to the character of those people involved, and when his character and integrity is attacked it makes him very upset as it does you. So if somebody is going to attack him he would appreciate it if they would take it to the Onondaga County District Attorney or keep their mouth shut. At some point here slander is going to become a reality; there are attorneys in this world that will take on and represent himself or anybody else who is an elected official to protect the character that many of us have worked hard to keep.

Deputy Supervisor Burtis made the following statement: Starting the New Year I would throw out a new challenge to folks. I will not be bullied. I will not be manipulated any longer. I don't want to see anything else in the newspaper talking about town board members. If you have something to say there is a legal world out there, file complete charges or I may file a charge against you.

Councilor Venesky said the Board has not addressed the ethics report that came out. They will address it at the next town board meeting officially. It was his feeling that they don't commit an ethics violation to address an ethics violation. This has been referred to the Chief in the police department and no one is exempt from the law. He said on the opinion, that opinion was received; we had one meeting in the month of December, and that opinion (from the Board of Ethics) was received by the Town Board thirty minutes prior to the meeting. No one had an opportunity to read it. No one had an opportunity to address it. No one had an opportunity to respond to the public and the press; that will be forthcoming in the next meeting. As a matter of fact part of their executive meeting today will be to discuss just that.

Bob Smith told Councilor Venesky he appreciates that and he also appreciates that it has already been referred to Chief Snell. He said he agrees with Councilor Burtis, he has sat here for the last 2 1/2 / 3 years and we have government by intimidation, bullying and character assassination; it isn't necessarily just the members of the Board, we have certain town individuals who come in here and consistently try to get what they want politically by committing these acts - this is reprehensible on a local level especially. In addition to that, you have people coming in here who

are tying up your town government unnecessarily, just constantly. He told Tracy Cosilmon to correct him if he was wrong, but during his foil process (and there's 33,000 individuals in this community) there's a stack that's about this high (a small amount) and then there's this same file for one individual in this community that's the same stack. He said he has seen it in the codes office; we lose hundreds of hours answering just meaningless, harassing foil requests. There is one thing this board could do, is because they don't even take the copies (the person requesting the information), there's many municipalities (and he knows that the town attorney has brought this up, because he discussed it with him) where we pass a fee where we charge for all the research: it's the lowest hourly rate of that employee in that department to pay for some of the administrative costs. He asked Robert Germain if he was wrong.

Robert Germain said that there is more to it than just...

Bob Smith said okay, but there are things we could do; it is costing the town a fortune. He had a clerk in the codes office that for two full days did no zoning work just to answer foil requests that weren't even used for anything – it's got to stop. He said Deputy Supervisor Burtis was correct but somewhere there was a real breakdown in ethics and it should be investigated, it should be dealt with because you guys deal with confidential information every day; apparently again today.

ADJOURNMENT/EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion was made by Supervisor Zambrano to adjourn the public meeting and for the Town Board, along with its attorney to enter into executive session. The Board would not be reconvening after executive session.

Motion was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Burtis.

Ayes – 4 and Noes – 1. *Motion carried.* Councilor Becallo said he was opposed.

There being no further business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Tracy M. Cosilmon
Town Clerk

PBA, CSEA and TEAMSTER EMPLOYEES/SALARIES:

Attachment A:

A.

Police Department 2015

	Salary	Step
AMYOT, S	\$73,039.00	Sergeant
AREGANO, M	\$66,550.00	7
BALDINI, J	\$73,039.00	Sergeant
BURDICK, MATTHEW	\$42,519.00	1
COTTRELL, J	\$66,550.00	7
FLANSBURG, E	\$44,680.00	2
KAZMIRSKI, J	\$51,860.00	4
LENEKER, D	\$66,550.00	7
LEO, T	\$66,550.00	7
MEYERS, J	\$66,550.00	7
PENNOCK, D	\$66,550.00	7
SERAFIN, M	\$66,550.00	7
SMITH, ASHLEY	\$44,680.00	2
SNELL, JAMES	\$73,039.00	Sergeant

Attachment B:

B.

Town of Cicero
1/2/2015
78120

Name	2015		Job Title
	Hourly	Annual	
Highway Department	Hourly	2088 hrs	
Baldwin, James	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Christian, David	\$25.80	53870.40	Labor Crew Leader
Engelbretsen, Troy	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Ferstler, Peter	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Harrington, John	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Henderson, William	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Hogan, Steven	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Ketchum Jr., Ronald	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Ladue, Daren	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Lauber, David	\$24.74	51657.12	Mech
Larochelle, Steven	\$25.80	53870.40	Labor Crew Leader
Lottermoser, James	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Mayers, Joseph	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Petterson, Justin	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Prevost, Christopher	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Price, Carl	\$24.74	51657.12	Mech
Robbins, Keith	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Ross, Joseph	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Sherback, Mark	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Spenard, Joseph	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Taylor, Timothy	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO
Wicks, Terry	\$24.74	51657.12	MEO

Attachment C:

Town of Cicero Teamsters		2015 Salary	
Name			
William Alley	Park Labor Crew Leader	\$	48,196.47
Jennifer Bowers	Clerk	\$	32,734.41
Mike Hogan	Park Laborer	\$	41,146.96
Heida LaLone	Clerk	\$	35,098.44
William Lawrence	Park Laborer	\$	42,573.90
Tonia Mosley	Clerk	\$	35,098.44
Michele Benedict	Justice Clerk	\$	37,994.92
Teresa Luke	Justice Clerk	\$	37,994.92
Steven Procopio	Code Enforcement Officer	\$	47,621.43
Julie Raddell	Rec Supevisor	\$	42,382.22
Brett Wood	Park Laborer	\$	34,076.16
Mary Beth Togni	Real Property Apraiser	\$	43,148.94
Dawn Maurer	Typist I	\$	39,208.88
John Dunham	Deputy Codes Enforcement Officer	\$	39,656.13
David Balcer	Deputy Codes Enforcement Officer	\$	39,565.13