

STATE OF NEW YORK
ONONDAGA COUNTY
TOWN OF CICERO

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The Cicero Town Board held a **Regular Town Board Meeting on Wednesday, September 28, 2016** at 6:30 p.m. at the Cicero Town Hall, 8236 Brewerton Road, Cicero, NY 13039.

PRESENT:

Mark Venesky	Supervisor
Mike Becallo	Councilor
C. Vernon Conway	Councilor
Dick Cushman	Councilor
Jonathan Karp	Councilor

OTHERS PRESENT:

Joseph Snell	Police Chief
Jody Rogers	Director of Youth Bureau, Parks & Recreation
Neil 3wGermain	Germain & Germain, Town Attorney
Stephen Snell	O'Brien & Gere, Town Engineer
Tracy M. Cosilmon	Town Clerk

Supervisor Venesky opened the 16th regular meeting of the Town Board at 6:30 p.m. by noting the locations of the three emergency exits, asked that all electronic devices be silenced and noted if anyone had difficulty hearing to bring it to the Board's attention.

Councilor Conway led the Pledge of Allegiance, and then requested a moment of silence for our troop's and all other people in harm's way.

Town Board Meeting Minutes

Councilor Conway made a motion to approve the Town Board minutes from the Regular Town Board Meeting held on September 14, 2016. Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Approval of Abstract Numbers 38 & 39

Councilor Cushman made a motion to accept Abstract #38 (dated 9/21/2016) and Abstract #39 (dated 9/28/2016) as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilor Karp.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Budget Modifications/Amendments

Councilor Cushman made a motion to accept the Budget Modifications/Amendments as listed:

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

FROM		\$	TO	
A677245	Senior Misc	800.00	A677242	Senior Supplies
A71501	Parks Personal Services	4.50	A715011	Beach Laborer
A71501	Parks Personal Service	63.72		
A715041	Parks Utilities	634.28	A715042	Parks Improvements
B702052	Parks Computer Labor	200.00	B714010	Parks Personal Services
B7310402	Canteen Supplies	252.96	B7310401	Canteen Office Supplies
A71101 OT	Park OT	600.00		
A7110411	Parks Fuel	700.00	A715042	Parks Improvements
DB511041	Hwy Equipment Rental	2000.00	DB511047	Hwy Misc.
DB51102	Hwy Equipment	3356.28	DB511047	Hwy Misc.
A711046	Parks Mechanics	4000.00		
A711042	Parks Utilities	1000.00		
A711041	Parks Vehicle Operation	3000.00	A711045	Parks Improvement
A677211	Senior Personal Services	400.00	A677245	Parks Misc.
A715044	Parks Taxes	4.62	A715045	Parks Misc.
B7310402	Canteen Program Supplies	21.49	B7310401	Canteen Office Supplies
A1410435	Town Clerk Postage	500.00	A14104	Town Clerk Contractual
A14101	Town Clerk Personal Services	1000.00	A141044	Town Clerk Code Book
A162040	Buildings	150.00	A1620460	Contracts
A71102	Parks Equipment	365.69		
A7110411	Parks Fuel	859.31	A715043	Parks Porta John
A7110411	Parks Fuel	1000.00	A711040	Parks Fuel
A677246	Senior Utilities	1000.00		
A677253	Senior Bus Maintenance	200.00	A677242	Senior Supplies
A12204	Town Supervisor Contractual	51.37	A122041	Town Supervisor Computer Labor
A11104	Justice Contractual	52.00	A111042	Justice Computer Software
A13154	Comptroller Contractual	1000.00	A131543 HR	HR Consultant
A142041	Attorney Union Negotiation	10000.00	A14204	Attorney Contractual
A168041	Computer Maint/Support	500.00	A168045	Internet
A90608	Medical Insurance	13815.88	A90408	Workers Comp
B312040	Police Contractual	241.35	B312054	Police Computer Labor 189.98
			B312055	Police Computer Software 51.37
DB514211	Hwy Snow Personal Serv	3000.00	DB511011	Hwy Personal Services OT

2016 BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Revenue

Appropriations

Motion was seconded by Councilor Karp.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

**Set Public Hearing Date to Consider Passing a Local Law to Exceed the 2% Tax Cap
for the 2017 Town of Cicero Budget**

Councilor Cushman moved for the adoption of a resolution to set a Public Hearing on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. to consider passing a local law to exceed the 2% Tax Cap for the 2017 Town of Cicero Budget. Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

2017 Preliminary Budget:

• **Presentation of the 2017 Tentative Budget**

Councilor Cushman moved for the adoption of a resolution to set a Special Town Board Meeting for Monday, October 3, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Cicero Town Hall, 8236 Brewerton Rd., Cicero for the Town Clerk to present the 2017 Tentative Budget to the Cicero Town Board.

Motion was seconded by Councilor Conway.

Supervisor Venesky: A copy of this budget will be available in the Town Clerk's Office where it may be inspected during regular business hours. It will also be posted on the Town's website.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Councilor Cushman announced that the **Public workshops with the five (5) fire departments to discuss their budget presentations have been scheduled at the Young at Heart Senior Center, 5924 Lathrop Drive, Cicero, on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.** Each department will have a half an hour for their presentation. North Syracuse has asked to go first and South Bay is going third. The other three we have not settled yet:

6:00 p.m. North Syracuse Fire Department
6:30 p.m. _____ Fire Department
7:00 p.m. South Bay Fire Department
7:30 p.m. _____ Fire Department
8:00 p.m. _____ Fire Department

• **Schedule Town Board workshops for the Town's 2017 Preliminary Budget**

Councilor Cushman moved for the adoption of a resolution to schedule Town Board workshops for the Town's 2017 Preliminary Budget for Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cicero Town Hall, and Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cicero Town Hall. Motion was seconded by Councilor Karp.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

• **Schedule public hearing at the Cicero Town Hall for the Town's 2017 Preliminary Budget, including the special districts (Fire Protection) for November 9, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.**

Councilor Cushman moved for the adoption of a resolution to schedule a public hearing for the Town's 2017 Preliminary Budget, including the special districts (Fire Protection) for November 9, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cicero Town Hall. Motion was seconded by Councilor Karp.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Supervisor Venesky: We are going to adopt the 2017 Final Budget on November 9th. That is our plan at this point.

Skyway Park Project – Set Bid Date

Councilor Karp moved for the adoption of a resolution to accept sealed bids in the Town Clerk's Office by Friday, October 7, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. for Fencing Materials and Installation per specifications at Skyway Park as part of the Skyway Park Field Improvements Project. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Storage Agreement

Councilor Becallo moved for the adoption of a resolution to approve and authorize the Supervisor to execute the Rental Agreement with Store.More LLC for storage units for archival documents and maps (\$245.00 monthly rate). Motion was seconded by Councilor Karp.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion.

Councilor Cushman explained that the reason they needed to renew the agreement is the company changed. It was bought out by another company with a different name.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Parks and Recreation Department:**A. Purchase approvals**

Councilor Karp moved for the adoption of a resolution to approve the following purchases:

- \$3,500.00 to Rec Desk for the Online Registration Program
- \$3,500.00 (via fees) to John Haas for Basketball Instruction
- \$3,500.00 (via fees) to Gary Dembkowski for Basketball Instruction
- \$2,700.00 to Papa's Sports (via fees) for Basketball Jerseys for Basketball

Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

B. Skyway Park Field Improvement Project - (DASNY Grant - Dormitory Authority State of New York)

Councilor Karp moved for the adoption of a resolution to approve the following purchases:

- \$27,000.00 to BnK Excavating for Park & Field Improvements/Road access Skyway Park DASNY Grant (Dormitory Authority State of New York)
- \$5,320.00 to Kinsella for Runner Crush for roadway access to relieve pedestrian-vehicular crossing
- \$19,875.00 (County Contract) to Earl Becker for Topsoil
- \$3,300.00 to Lumberjack Tree for removal of eight (8) trees

Motion was seconded by Councilor Cushman.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Public Input

Don Snyder: The 2017 Tentative Budget will be on the website tomorrow?

Supervisor Venesky: No. We will have it posted for you Friday.

Tim Murphy: I have asked this question a couple of times to the Planning Board but never got any answer so I am going to ask it again, do you think it's necessary that the Planning Board Meetings should be taped or not taped? I know it's not your board. You're two separate boards, I realize that. But he's still not answering my question.

Supervisor Venesky: First of all, they are a separate board, of which this board has no authority over. They have their own attorney and they are governed by their own set of operating rules, so my opinion is not going to influence anything.

Tim Murphy: So do you think that it should be a public oversight with them being taped? I mean, accountability.

Supervisor Venesky: I think there are minutes.

Tim Murphy: But the minutes can be added or subtracted to.

Supervisor Venesky: That's totally up to the chairman of the planning board. This board has no legal authority over them, whatsoever.

Tim Murphy: That's amazing. To me it raises a red flag. It says, why are you guys hiding something.

Supervisor Venesky: We are pretty transparent. We are not hiding anything. I don't believe that they are hiding anything, in my heart of hearts.

Tim Murphy: Well how would you know if they are not taped?

Supervisor Venesky: I get their agenda and I have regular conversations with the planning board.

Tim Murphy: I think it should be taped for accountability and for public good. I think it's a totally reasonable idea. I can't believe that he won't answer my question, that's why I am in front of this board asking you.

Supervisor Venesky: Duly noted.

Councilor Karp: I don't think it would be appropriate for us to comment on whether or not an independent board should take the minutes.

Tim Murphy: But he doesn't answer the questions. That is why I am asking you, Sir.

Councilor Karp: I understand. But I'm just saying that a comment tonight would not be appropriate. This is an independent board. I hear what your concerns are. I just don't think it's appropriate for us to comment on that.

Tim Murphy: Okay. Thank you very much.

Reduce Speed Limit on Smith Road

Elizabeth Ostini read from the following letter she submitted, along with a petition to reduce the speed limit on Smith Road signed by fifty-five (55) people:

Page 1 of 2:

I would like to begin with acknowledging Mr. John Karp for his courtesy and guidance. I have come with a petition signed by the homeowners/residents of the 6100 area of Smith Rd between Thompson and Totman Rd.

Residents are concerned the safety of our increasing population of young children at play in conjunction with the degree of traffic traveling at high speeds. This places our children at ~~high risks~~ ^v jeopardizing them daily.

Totman Rd has a posted speed limit of 30 mph and is comparable demographically to Smith Rd, yet turning off Totman onto Smith the speed limit is increased to a posted 35mph and though not actual, as current traffic travels at a significantly higher rate. Additionally where Smith Rd crosses over Thompson, this area of Smith is a posted 30mph.

We the undersigned concerned citizens on Smith Rd request Supervisor Venesky in conjunction with the Town of Cicero the need for compliance lowering the existing speed limit to a posted 30 mph as to

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walkers, cyclists, pets

ensure the safety and wellbeing of our children. In addition ~~we are~~ ^{we are} resident requesting enforcement placed at various locations of Smith and other than the stop sign of Smith and Totman.

Thank you.

*Request results of Speed Sense
at minutes of meeting.*

The Petition to Reduce Speed Limit on Smith Road is on file at the Town Clerk's Office.

Councilor Karp: Did you encounter any resistance when you were going door to door getting signatures?

Elizabeth Ostini: The only one was a woman that doesn't come out; that was it, and I probably missed five.

Councilor Cushman: This is Smith Road that we are talking about, right?

Elizabeth Ostini: Yes.

Councilor Karp: This is only the section between Thompson and Totman. The other section is already thirty; the section between Thompson and Hamilton, correct?

Elizabeth Ostini: Yes.

Councilor Cushman: Do you know what the speed limit is in the school zone; the Smith Road School?

Councilor Becallo: It's thirty.

Chief Joseph Snell: There has never been a lawful school zone established in front of Smith Road School. It's just never been done. The Board has never brought it up and no one has ever asked for it so it was never established.

Councilor Karp: Chief, considering the residential character of the road and the narrow shoulders on Smith Road and the section that she is talking about, would you find a reduction of 30 mph to be inappropriate?

Chief Joseph Snell: No. If you reduce it five miles what will happen is the cars that are speeding, and I do believe these are the results of the survey that we did, we will probably reduce the traffic speed for the higher end by going down to about 45 mph, so I would not be opposed to it; I don't see any impact to it.

- **Set Public Hearing date to consider a speed reduction on Smith Road**

Councilor Karp moved for the adoption of resolution to set a public hearing on October 12, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. to consider a reduction of the speed limit from 35 mph to 30 mph for that section of Smith Road between Thompson Road and Totman Road.

Elizabeth Ostini: Additionally, there is enforcement that sits at the stop sign; Thompson and Smith. Could we have something further up the road where the people are coming around the corner off Totman because that is where the speed is increased? That's where people come around the corner. By the time they reach that stop sign on Thompson and Smith they are already slowing down, and basically you are catching them just maybe drifting through the stop sign, but it's coming around that corner. I mean, it's a high-rate risk.

Councilor Karp: At that section there aren't really as many houses, correct? Down by where the curb is is that where you are talking about?

Elizabeth Ostini: Just on one side. There's a field on one side, but there's houses on the right side coming down. On the left there is a field there, but still it's a danger because this is where the kids play.

Supervisor Venesky: Would you take a look at that for us Chief?

Chief Snell: Yes.

Councilor Becallo: So you had how many signatures?

Supervisor Venesky: Fifty-five (55).

Councilor Becallo: How many homes are on that stretch?

Elizabeth Ostini: I don't know.

Councilor Karp: Did you go to every house on that stretch?

Elizabeth Ostini: Yes, with the exception of the five that weren't home. I spoke at length with every resident that signed. There has already been a child that was hit on this road years ago, and another one of my neighbors was hit at the stop sign.

Supervisor Venesky: I'm going to make an assumption; five weren't home and one lady wouldn't come out of the house, that's sixty-one.

Supervisor Venesky seconded the motion.

Supervisor Venesky: I'm all in favor of having a public hearing and taking a look at that for you, absolutely.

Supervisor Venesky solicited any further Board discussion. There was none.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Public Input – continued

Judy Boyke: I was just looking at the abstracts and No.38 is dated 9/20 and No. 39 is dated 9/23.

Councilor Cushman: The date at the top is when they are printed for the purpose of the meeting. Number 39 is actually dated 9/28 and No.38 is dated 9/21. If you look at all the entries that is when the checks were written and at the top where the date is that is just when it was printed.

Judy Boyke: So all of this was ready to be dispersed on the 23rd for the 28th?

Councilor Cushman: That's correct.

Adjournment

Supervisor Venesky made a motion to adjourn the Town Board meeting.

Motion was seconded by Councilor Becallo.

Ayes – 5, Noes – 0, and Abstentions – 0. *Motion carried unanimously.*

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.