

City of Cuba- Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes Taken from: July 28th 2026

Meeting Held at: City Hall / 403 E Jefferson St, Cuba IL

7:00 PM

Call to Order:

Mayor Cozart called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

Roll Call			Aye's	Nay's	Absent
Alderman Falk			X		
Alderman Burgett			X		
Alderman Yocum			X		
Alderman Scharping			X		
Alderwoman Clark			X		
Mayor Cozart			X		
Alderman Lynch			X		

Alderman Lynch arrived at 7:05 PM

Review & Approval of Agenda:

Motion and second to approve the agenda as amended to include discussion of the October 17 St. Jude Fish Fry fundraiser under Old/New Business and the proposed Ampion Community Solar Agreement under City Property. Alderman Yocum/ Falk, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Review & Approval of Minutes:

Council approved the following meeting minutes:

Motion and second to approve July 14, 2026 Regular Council Meeting minutes as written, Alderwoman Clark Alderman Scharping, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Motion and second to approve June 8, 2026 City Property Committee Meeting minutes as written, Alderman Scharping/ Yocum, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Motion and second to approve June 10, 2026 City Property Committee Meeting minutes as written, Alderman Yocum/ Alderwoman Clark, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Motion and second to approve July 13, 2026 Economic Development Committee Meeting minutes as written, Alderwoman Clark/ Alderman Yocum, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Motion and second to approve June 22, 2026 Finance Committee Meeting minutes as written, Alderman Scharping/ Falk, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Public Comment:

A resident presented a proposal to host a community-wide indoor garage sale and vendor event at the Community Center. Discussion included potential rental fees, vendor participation, use of Community Center facilities, and fundraising opportunities to benefit the Community Center. Council expressed support for exploring the idea further and encouraged continued planning. No formal action was taken.

Water Clerk Report:

The Water Clerk reported that 26 customer deposits had been applied to accounts and several refund checks were being processed. Six accounts remain on the current shutoff list and shutoff activity is expected to occur the following week.

Council also discussed a request from a new property owner who is rehabilitating a residence and requested water service without sewer or garbage charges during construction. Council reviewed the City's existing utility billing practices and discussed concerns about creating exceptions that could lead to inconsistent application of utility policies. No changes were made to the current utility billing structure.

Clerk Report

The Clerk reported receipt of approximately \$960 in permit fees, donations, and vendor registrations, including raffle permits, side-by-side permits, food vendor permits, and community event donations.

Updates were also provided regarding ordinance enforcement activities throughout the City. Several nuisance and vegetation complaints were reviewed, including tall grass, weeds, and property maintenance concerns at multiple locations. Council discussed recent compliance efforts by property owners and ongoing enforcement activities.

Additional properties remain under review and staff will continue monitoring compliance.

Council also discussed vegetation obstructing visibility at intersections and ways to improve traffic safety through property maintenance.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented detailed bills and fund activity across all accounts totaling \$159,157.14

General Fund \$23,156.73

MFT \$5,030.72

Garbage \$10,886.68

Sewer \$72,276.11

TIF \$878.00

Water \$39,612.03

Major expenses included:

Engineering services

Water and sewer system operations

Illinois EPA fees

Sheriff patrol services

Lift station electrical work

Water system maintenance

Publishing and legal notices

Community Center expenses

Equipment maintenance and repairs

The Treasurer reported that several Microsoft 365 accounts were no longer being utilized by the City. Council reviewed the monthly cost associated with those inactive accounts, Motion and second to authorize the cancellation of unused accounts while maintaining active accounts needed for City operations. Alderman Scharping/ Lynch, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Finance

Motion and second to approve bills totaling \$159,157.14

Alderman Scharping/ Burgett

Roll Call			Aye's	Nay's	Absent
Alderman Burgett			X		
Alderman Scharping			X		
Alderman Falk			X		
Alderman Yocum			X		
Alderwoman Clark			X		
Alderman Lynch			X		

Motion passed

Motion and second to approve transfers as recommended by the Treasurer.

Alderman Scharping/ Falk

Roll Call			Aye's	Nay's	Absent
Alderman Yocum			X		
Alderman Burgett			X		
Alderman Scharping			X		
Alderman Falk			X		
Alderwoman Clark			X		
Alderman Lynch			X		

Motion passed

Purchase Orders

The following purchase orders were approved

RP Lumber- \$39.99 Community Center window unit

Walmart- \$284.99 Air conditioning replacement for food pantry

IMCO- \$578 Storm drain replacement

Armitage Automotive-\$751 Vehicle and equipment repairs

Beekman Associates- \$500 Property appraisal services

Sherwin Williams- \$159.14 Paint and building maintenance materials

Fulton County Democrat- \$100.00 Publishing Resolution 26-07-028

Sponsorship- \$1000.00 Gibson Girls for SS Reunion

USPS- \$11.10 certified letters sent

Motion and second to approve purchase orders by unanimous consent

Alderman Falk/ Scharping

Roll Call			Aye's	Nay's	Absent
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Alderman Falk		X		
Alderman Yocum		X		
Alderman Scharping		X		
Alderman Burgett		X		
Alderwoman Clark		X		
Alderman Lynch		X		

Motion passed

Discussion included replacement of damaged storm drain grates and repair items necessary to maintain City facilities and equipment.

Motion and Second to reinvest CD's at MidAmerica National Bank for 6 months with a renewal date of February 10th 2027

MFT-4311

Garbage-6936

ESDA-5673

Capital Improvements-5165

TIF-7555

Alderman Falk/ Scharping

Roll Call			Aye's	Nay's	Absent
Alderman Burgett		X			
Alderman Scharping		X			
Alderman Falk		X			
Alderman Yocum		X			
Alderwoman Clark		X			
Alderman Lynch		X			

Motion passed

City Property

Community Center Improvements:

Council reviewed plans for drainage and gutter improvements at the Community Center. Discussion focused on developing detailed specifications to ensure consistent bidding and proper drainage away from the building.

Committee members will continue evaluating options before seeking formal bids.

City Tree Maintenance and Liability:

Council discussed concerns regarding trees located within street right-of-way areas and reports of falling limbs near residential properties. Discussion included:

Potential liability concerns

Insurance coverage questions

Distinction between City-owned property and right-of-way easements

Existing maintenance responsibilities

Council requested written clarification from the City's insurance provider regarding liability and maintenance obligations before determining future policy direction.

Ampion Community Solar Program:

Council reviewed information regarding a proposed community solar agreement with Ampion that could provide electric cost savings for municipal facilities and eligible residents.

Discussion included:

Estimated utility savings

Contract terms

Opt-out provisions

Program administration

Customer participation requirements

Long-term financial implications

Members expressed interest in potential cost savings but requested additional information regarding program structure, funding mechanisms, and experiences of other municipalities before taking action.

No action was taken. Staff will gather additional information and report back at a future meeting.

Garbage

Council discussed implementation of automated garbage collection equipment recently introduced by the City's waste hauler.

Topics included:

Proper placement of refuse containers

Additional container requirements

Collection of excess garbage

Resident education regarding new collection procedures

Council encouraged residents to follow placement guidelines to improve collection efficiency and reduce missed pickups.

No formal action was taken.

Police Report

Council received the monthly police report for June.

The report included:

16 traffic stops

Traffic citations and warnings

Multiple arrests

113 calls for service

78 patrol-related calls

Council also discussed recent traffic enforcement activities and was advised that the Police Chief expects to attend a future meeting to provide additional updates.

Legal

Motion and second to approve Resolution No. 26-07-028 authorizing the process necessary for the potential sale of City-owned property located at 616 East Polk Street to Mid-Century Fiber.

Alderman Scharping/ Alderwoman Clark

Roll Call			Aye's	Nay's	Absent
Alderman Burgett			X		
Alderman Scharping			X		
Alderman Falk			X		
Alderman Yocum			X		
Alderwoman Clark			X		
Alderman Lynch			X		

Motion passed

The property is being considered for utility infrastructure purposes associated with expansion of fiber communications services

Discussion included:

- Appraisal requirements
- State sale procedures
- Utility use of the property
- Valuation requirements prior to sale

The resolution authorizes proceeding with the sale process but does not constitute final completion of the sale.

Streets & Alleys

Council reviewed ongoing resident concerns regarding speeding in several areas of the community.

Discussion focused on:

- First Street traffic concerns
- Existing speed bump locations
- Traffic patterns near residential neighborhoods
- Farm equipment and heavy vehicle traffic
- Future street improvement projects

Council reviewed possible relocation of existing removable speed bumps and discussed the potential use of additional traffic-calming measures, including warning signage. Staff will continue evaluating locations and report back with recommendations.

Council received an update regarding replacement of damaged storm drain grates and related drainage infrastructure improvements.

Water & Sewer

No formal report was presented.

Council briefly discussed ongoing water tower matters and future maintenance planning.

Personnel

No formal report was presented.

Planning and Economic Development

Council received a comprehensive update regarding planning for the upcoming Soldiers & Sailors Reunion.

Updates included:

- Event entertainment schedule
- Recognition of local veterans
- Key to the City presentations
- Carnival wristband program
- Community sponsorship activities
- Youth and family programming
- Volunteer coordination

Additional discussion included military participation requests and community partnership activities related to the event.

Mussel Statue Project

Council received an update on the regional mussel statue project.

The unveiling event is expected to take place at Dickson Mounds with participation from multiple communities throughout the region. Local officials were advised that additional details will be released once event planning is finalized.

Hitching Post Project

Council discussed continued planning for installation of a hitching post to accommodate Amish visitors traveling into the community.

Potential locations are being evaluated and additional discussions will occur before final placement is determined

Old /New Business

Council discussed plans for the October 17 St. Jude Fish Fry fundraiser, which will be held in conjunction with the fall side-by-side ride.

Discussion included volunteer participation, food preparation, donations, and event logistics. Council expressed support for continuing the successful partnership and fundraising effort.

OSF Storage Building Project

Council received a detailed update regarding ongoing negotiations with OSF concerning use of the City's new storage building. Discussion included:

- Proposed lease rates
- Building construction costs
- Utility expenses
- Insurance responsibilities
- Long-term lease options
- Future service expansion opportunities

Council reviewed costs associated with construction of the facility and discussed terms necessary to ensure the project remains financially sustainable for the City. Staff will continue negotiations and return with formal recommendations.

Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn at 8:42 PM, Alderman Falk/ Yocum, All Aye's, Motion passed