

City of Cuba- Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes Taken from: August 25th 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 7:00 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited

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

Review & Approval of Agenda

Motion and second to approve the agenda as amended to include a flood update and Christmas tree discussion under City Property. Alderman Scharping/ Yocum, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Review & Approval of Minutes

Council approved the following minutes:

Motion and second to approve August 11 Regular Council Meeting minutes as written, Alderwoman Clark/ Alderman Burgett, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Motion and second to approve August 10 Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes as written, Alderwoman Clark/ Alderman Yocum, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Motion and second to approve August 17 Emergency Meeting minutes as written, Alderwoman Clark/ Alderman Burgett, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Motion and second to approve August 19 Emergency Meeting minutes as written, Alderwoman Clark/ Alderman Scharping, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Public Recognition

Diabetes Awareness Walk Request

Molly Cornell, a Cuba High School senior, presented plans for a Diabetes Awareness Walk as part of her senior project. The event is proposed for November 14 in recognition of National Diabetes Awareness Day and would begin and end near the elementary school and church parking area.

Motion and second to approve the proposed route and the event concept contingent upon final approval through

the school senior project process. Alderman Yocum/ Scharping, All Aye's, Motion passed.

A resident addressed Council regarding ongoing concerns involving a property on North Fifth Street, including accumulation of trash, refuse disposal, and potential health concerns.

Council discussed previous enforcement efforts and agreed to further investigate the matter, including reviewing documentation, obtaining photographs, and consulting with the Health Department regarding potential violations and enforcement options.

Water Clerk Report

The Water Clerk reported that 28 delinquent utility accounts have been flagged for potential shutoff. Customers have been given additional time to make payment arrangements before service disconnections occur.

Council also received an update regarding the ongoing utility deposit reconciliation project. Staff reported that only a small number of accounts remain unresolved and that significant progress has been made in identifying account holders and addressing outstanding deposit issues.

Clerk Report

The Clerk reported issuance of permits and related fees totaling \$430 since the previous meeting. Permits included fencing improvements and utility terrain vehicle registrations.

Council also reviewed the status of a previously cited nuisance property on North Ninth Street. Staff reported that substantial cleanup progress has been made and the property owner requested additional time to complete the remaining work. Council agreed to grant a 30-day extension, provided progress continues.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented bills totaling \$59,039.56 for approval.

General- \$19,225.67

Garbage- \$10,916.53

Water- \$4,191.73

Water Deposit- \$3,999.30

Water Tower- \$7,065.48

Major expenditures included:

- ☐Water and sewer operations
- ☐Garbage collection services
- ☐Community Center expenses
- ☐Utility and communication services
- Insurance and professional services
- ☐Cemetery lift station expenses
- ☐Water deposit refunds and transfers

Finance

Motion and second to approve payment of bills totaling \$59,039.56, Alderman Scharping/ Burgett

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

Motion and second to approve transfers as recommended by the Treasurer, Alderman Scharping/ Yocum

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

Motion passed

Purchase Orders

Motion and second to approve the following purchase orders by unanimous consent:

- Amazon- \$13.98 Staple cartridge
- Ace Hardware- \$319.98 Two sump pumps for the sewer plant
- Stambaugh & Sons- \$2000 Tractor tires and rims
- IMCO- \$4,658 Pipe needed for sewer line/ road repair
- Roling garage Doors- \$2,835 Three replacement doors for a city-owned building

Discussion noted that the replacement doors were obtained at a lower cost than originally anticipated.

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

Leaf Collection Program

Council discussed the City's annual leaf collection program and the challenges associated with vacuum leaf collection.

Residents will be asked to place leaves in approved paper leaf bags for pickup. Staff will finalize collection schedules and bag availability information prior to the start of the program.

Council noted that the new approach is expected to improve efficiency and reduce labor costs.

Motion and second to approve implementation of a leaf bag collection program during the month of October.

Alderman Yocum/ Scharping, All Aye's, Motion passed.

Christmas Trees

Council discussed the annual downtown Christmas tree decorating program.

After reviewing participation from previous years, Council agreed to proceed with an order of approximately 35 Christmas trees. Staff will begin advertising the program earlier this year in an effort to increase participation and ensure all trees are decorated.

Flood Recovery Update

Council received an extensive update regarding ongoing flood recovery and damage assessment activities.

Staff reported that additional residents continue to submit damage information and complete surveys documenting flood impacts. The City is working with county and state emergency management officials to compile damage totals and identify resources available to affected residents.

Discussion included:

- Resident damage reporting
- Volunteer cleanup assistance
- Available disaster recovery resources
- Potential Department of Corrections work crews
- Flood-related debris removal
- Documentation required for future assistance opportunities

Council emphasized the importance of ensuring all flood-related damages, labor costs, equipment usage, and cleanup expenses are properly documented.

Garbage

Council discussed garbage collection procedures and reminded residents to place garbage containers in the proper orientation for automated collection.

Council also reviewed reports of occasional missed collections. Residents are encouraged to contact City Hall regarding missed pickups so arrangements can be made with the waste hauler when appropriate.

Additional discussion focused on debris disposal resulting from recent flooding and the continued need for roll-off dumpsters throughout the community.

Police

Council received the July police activity report.

Reported activity included:

- 125 calls for service
- 91 patrol contacts
- 11 traffic stops
- 10 written warnings
- 2 arrests

Council also noted an active warrant involving failure to register as a sex offender.

Legal

No Report

Streets and Alleys

Council received an update regarding completion of the City's oil and chip street maintenance program.

Staff reported that several additional streets were completed beyond those originally anticipated. Final billing information is still being reviewed.

Council also discussed the need to retrieve remaining gravel currently stored on township property. The material has already been purchased and will be used for future road repairs and maintenance activities.

Additional discussion focused on future alley maintenance projects and areas requiring attention following recent flooding events.

Personnel

Council discussed plans for a future meeting involving Public Works employees, the Mayor, and City leadership. The purpose of the meeting will be to review departmental priorities, maintenance schedules, drainage and culvert maintenance, project planning, and overall operational expectations.

Due to ongoing flood recovery activities, the meeting will be rescheduled at a later date.

Planning and Economic Development

Hitching Post Project

Council received an update regarding installation of the downtown hitching post. Materials are currently being assembled, and installation will proceed once all necessary items are available.

Fiber Fast Project

Council received an update regarding the proposed Fiber Fast property transaction.

The required appraisal has been completed; however, the appraisal report will not be released until payment is received. Staff expects the report shortly and anticipates the project remaining on schedule.

Council noted that project timelines continue to support installation activities before winter weather arrives.

Mussel Trail Project

Council received an update regarding the regional Mussel Trail Project and recent unveiling event.

The City's mussel statue is expected to be installed in Palin Park in the near future. Council discussed future plans for the area, including landscaping improvements, seating, memorial features, flower gardens, and additional beautification projects.

Council also discussed allowing a storage shed for the Masonic organization within the park area to assist with storage of Soldiers and Sailors Reunion materials. Additional planning will occur as park improvements move forward.

Old/ New Business

First Responder Appreciation Lunch

Council reviewed plans for a First Responder Appreciation Lunch scheduled for September 20.

The event is intended to recognize and thank local Fire Department, EMS, Rescue Squad, and other emergency personnel for their service to the community, particularly during recent flood recovery efforts.

St. Jude Side-by-Side Ride

Council received an update regarding the St. Jude Side-by-Side Ride scheduled for October 17.

Approximately 150 participants are expected. Event logistics and timing were discussed as organizers finalize the route schedule.

Homecoming Parade

Council received an update regarding the Homecoming Parade scheduled for September 18.

Discussion included the City's participation, decorations, and giveaway items for parade attendees.

OSF Facility Update

Council received an update indicating that the new facility structure is substantially complete, with utility and electrical work still underway.

APC Tower Lease Proposal

Council reviewed an offer from APC to buy out the City's tower lease agreement.

The proposed buyout amount was approximately \$237,000. After reviewing the proposal and comparing it to the long-term value of the existing lease agreement, Council determined the offer was not in the City's best interest and elected to continue under the current lease terms.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Motion and second adjourn at 7:55 PM, Alderman Yocum/ Scharping

All Aye's, Motion passed.

