



The regular town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, Tuesday, October 13, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. was called to order by Supervisor Daniel L. Vera. The following official business was transacted:

The Clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

TRUSTEES:	Raymond F. Slattery	Present
	Archie Gavin	Present
	Rosie Verdin	Present
	Brian Hertzmann	Present
SUPERVISOR:	Daniel L. Vera	Present
CLERK:	Julie A. Kinsella	Present
OTHER OFFICIALS:	Commissioner Michael Turnbull	Present
	Assessor James Brenczewski	Absent

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney James Harvey, Accountant Colleen Witt, GA Director Patricia Venziano, JTAC Director Whitney (Armstrong) McGill, Township employee Jesse Stiff, Road District employee Anna Donovan, Erik Donovan, and Diane Harris. Other people were also in attendance, but chose not to sign the attendance sheet.

Approval of the Minutes:

Regular Town Minutes/September 22, 2020: Trustee Slattery moved to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2020 Regular Town Board Meeting and to waive the reading of these minutes inasmuch as copies had previously been delivered. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. A voice vote was taken.¹

Public Hearing Minutes /September 22, 2020: Trustee Slattery moved to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing and to waive the reading of these minutes inasmuch as copies had previously been delivered. Motion was seconded by Trustee Gavin. Roll call vote was taken.²

¹ Voice Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0).
² Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0).

Public Comment:

None

New Business:

Approve/Appropriation Ordinance No. 367-2020 – Transfer of Appropriation- General Town: Accountant Witt explained that the transfer was from the General Town Fund Legal Line Item to transfer to the Audit Services line item in the amount of \$4,505.00. Witt noted that at the last meeting (September 22, 2020) Highway Commissioner Turnbull stated that he was checking with his legal counsel to make sure it was legal for him to pay that bill (the Road District's portion of the audit). Accountant Witt then asked Turnbull, "Isn't that correct?" Turnbull replied, "I am still getting that reviewed by my accountant." Witt explained that this Transfer of Appropriation was so that we can get the auditor paid. Supervisor Vera noted that obviously the work has been done, and we have already received the reports. Trustee Slattery then made a motion to approve the Transfer of Appropriation-General Town Ordinance No. 367-2020 for the amount of \$4,505.00 to transfer to Audit Services from Legal Services. Motion seconded by Trustee Verdin. Supervisor Vera asked if there were any questions or clarifications needed. Trustee Hertzmann then asked if it was legal to pay this bill since it was for the Road District and Attorney Harvey stated that the board had the authority to do so. Trustee Verdin then questioned that this was for the audit of our financials. Witt replied that the Audit included the Road District and that this transfer was payment for the Road District portion of the Audit. Roll call vote was then taken.³ Motion passed unanimously.

Adopt/ November 2020 Meeting Date Changes: Supervisor Vera explained that the Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) Annual Education Conference would be virtual this year, so to please let the Clerk know if you are attending or not. These meeting date changes for November return to keeping with the usual meeting schedule of second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The new dates for November meetings would be November 10, 2020 and November 24, 2020. Trustee Gavin made a motion to change the November meeting dates to November 10 and November 24, 2020 due to the change to a virtual TOI Annual Education Conference. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. Roll call vote was taken.⁴ Motion was passed unanimously.

Adopt/November 3, 2020 as an additional holiday: Supervisor Vera noted that Governor Pritzker had declared November 3, 2020, Election Day, as a state holiday. Vera continued, that would be for the township to adopt so that its employees know that November 3 is a holiday put together by the state legislature and signed by the Governor.

³ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

⁴ Voice Vote: Ayes (5), Nays (0)

Trustee Verdin motioned to adopt November 3, 2020, as an additional holiday for the township. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. Trustee Slattery asked if it was a paid holiday. Vera replied that it is a paid holiday. Vera also asked Attorney Harvey if any other public bodies with whom he works have also done this, and Attorney Harvey assured him that the others have declared November 3, 2020 a holiday, too. Roll call vote was taken.⁵ Motion was passed unanimously.

Approve/Grant for Spirit of Christmas, University of St. Francis: Supervisor Vera explained that the Township has had a tradition for the last eleven or twelve years of supporting this in the amount of \$1,000.00 which was verified by Accountant Witt. Trustee Slattery motioned to approve the Spirit of Christmas grant of \$1,000.00 to the University of St. Francis. Motion seconded by Trustee Verdin. Roll call vote was taken.⁶ Motion was passed unanimously.

Reports:

Supervisor Vera:

Supervisor Vera reported that Assessor Jim Brenczewski was unable to make it to the meeting today. Vera also let the board know that an Eagle Scout candidate had inquired about possibly doing his Eagle Scout project at Oakwood Cemetery. The scout is awaiting the approval of scouting leadership before giving the township his proposal. Vera also noted that Trustee Hertzmann brought to his attention notice that PACE would be discontinuing bus routes 504 and 507 that serve parts of Joliet Township. Vera stated that he contacted PACE. PACE representatives will be having phone conference call with all the township supervisors who are stakeholders in this area on October 22, 2020. Vera stated that these two routes are in the heart of the Township, and serve some of the unincorporated areas and serves to get riders who may have no other means of transportation to get to shopping at the mall and also go to the medical center areas. Vera will report back at the next meeting why PACE is discontinuing these routes. Annually, the Township contributes based on ridership to the PACE system. Other than that, day-to-day.

Clerk Kinsella: Day-to-day operations and noted that the TOI Conference and to let the clerk know about whether or not they would be attending so registration may be completed by the Clerk.

Highway Commissioner: Supervisor Vera noted that the board had Mike's (Commissioner Turnbull) written report.

⁵ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

⁶ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

Animal Control: JTAC Director Whitney (Armstrong) McGill reported that in September, JTAC was invited to a local cat adoption event on September 20, and all 7 cats brought to the event were adopted. September was one of the most successful months for returning lost pets to their owners. They were able to reunite about 41 dogs and 2 cats with their families, which is about double the usual amount. Supervisor Vera mentioned that, by law, any stray picked up must be micro-chipped before it can be returned to the owner, and this works as a program.

General Assistance: General Assistance Director, Patricia Veneziano noted resumption of meetings via Zoom for the Education and Support Services Committee for the Continuum of Care. Guest speakers from Comprehensive Community Based Youth Services (a part of DCFS) shared what resources are available for homeless youth. Veneziano noted that GA had also spoken to Aunt Martha's to evaluate what their limitations are in assisting homeless youth. It was determined that a joint program attempting to launch with Aunt Martha's and Morning Star Mission will not effectively function and properly service youth. Veneziano attended Housing/Plan to End Homelessness Committee meeting via Zoom. The Continuum reported receiving 1.2 million in funding since Covid relief started of which 40% was allocated to emergency shelters. The Continuum expects to receive another 1.5 million in the latest round. Veneziano reported that 25 veterans are currently on the list awaiting housing. At this time, veterans are in motels due to Covid. Written standards for rapid rehousing are being presented to HUD. Veneziano also noted that while the Continuum will take a housing first approach, clients who do not meet their goals or who are uncooperative with their caseworkers, will be dropped. She also noted that Morning Star Mission and Daybreak have reopened their facilities and will not be requiring Covid testing prior to admission at this time. Covid testing will be done on a regular basis at the shelters. Veneziano participated an online focus group for PACE/Chicago RTA to discuss transportation issues in the area and reported that PACE may possibly expand its Dial-A-Ride program. Lastly, Veneziano stated that she and Sue (Bustin) attended a GAP meeting featuring guest speaker Keisha Ainsworth who discussed United Way programs and Covid relief efforts. Other than that, day-to-day operations. Vera asked about the change to the rapid rehousing and Patricia explained that prior to the new director of the program it was possible to be in the program which was intended to be short-term, for as much as two years, with little progress. The new program guidelines are expected to facilitate a quicker progress to more permanent housing for those who cooperate with program requirements.

Accountant Witt: Accountant Witt reported that she had completed the bank reconciliations for September and it is available on the table. Witt also reported that the financial statements are complete through September and copies were included in the board packet. She also included the financial packets for the Road District covering April 1 through September 30, because their budget had not been passed until the last meeting (September 22, 2020). Witt stated that she filed the IMRF for September,

completed and filed the quarterly payroll tax forms, and updated the accounting software for the Road District budget that was passed at the last meeting. Witt also noted that she had received an email from the Highway Commissioner with new pay rates for the employees that were to be retroactive to April 1, 2020. Those paychecks were issued October 9, 2020 and are included in tonight's bills. Witt stated that she had spoken to the Highway Commissioner regarding the pay increases that were issued because the budget did not have enough in each line item to cover those increases. She continued, stating that she did propose a transfer of appropriations to provide enough funds in each line item and he (Turnbull) will present that if he agrees to it. Witt also stated that BCBS had sent a notice regarding a premium credit of 15% that will be received on the November statement, and that she will apply the credit to any employee's paycheck affected by this credit. Other than that, day-to-day operations.

Cemetery: Supervisor Vera noted that the written report from Paul Cabay is in the board packet and that he was out at the cemetery today to track down more headstones, with Sarah's (Gimbel) help, so that families traveling to find loved ones have an easier time of it. One headstone was located, but another was still missing.

Supervisor Vera also noted that he had received a call from interim Will County Executive Denise Winfrey regarding her review of the various governmental units in the county who had applied for CARES funds that the county had been awarded (about 121 million was available for Will County to award). She noted that Joliet Township had not applied for any, and wanted to make sure that we were aware of the funds available. Vera stated the Township has not had any of the major expenses that people have done for Covid relief and have been able to absorb any additional costs. He noted that it was very nice that Denise reached out to make sure we didn't miss the opportunity if we had warranted expenses. Vera stated that the Township is in a unique position of because of being in the City of Joliet, primarily, and a lot of the expenses have been borne by the city and other agencies.

Receipts: Trustee Slattery made a motion to deposit all funds into their proper accounts as presented for the period ending October 13, 2020. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A voice vote was taken.⁷

Expenditures: The Supervisor presented the following invoices for Town Board approval for the period ending October 13, 2020:

⁷ Voice Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

FUND

EXPENDITURES

General Town \$136,552.64
Motion: Trustee Slattery
Second: Trustee Verdin
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0⁸

Capital Fund- No bills presented for this fund.

General Assistance \$13,378.70
Motion: Trustee Verdin
Second: Trustee Slattery
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0⁹

Road and Bridge \$51,812.17
Motion: Trustee Verdin
Second: Trustee Gavin
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0¹⁰

Supervisor Vera then asked if the Highway Commissioner was in agreement with the bills presented for payment tonight, for the record, and Turnbull said, "I do."

Animal Control \$31,536.65
Motion: Trustee Slattery
Second: Trustee Verdin
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0¹¹

Senior Fund- No bills presented for this fund.

Closed Session: none

⁸ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

⁹ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

¹⁰ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

¹¹ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

Adjournment:

Trustee Hertzmann moved to adjourn the town board meeting to Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A voice vote was taken.¹²

The October 13, 2020 meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Kinsella
Clerk

¹² Voice Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)