

Minutes of a Meeting of the Joliet Township the Joliet Township Board 175 W. Jefferson St., Joliet, IL 60432 Tuesday, May 10th, 2022

The regular town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, Tuesday, MAY 10th, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. was called to order by Supervisor Angel Contreras. The following official business was transacted:

The Clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The Clerk called the roll as follows:

TRUSTEES:

Cesar Escutia

Present

Karl Ferrell

Absent

Suzanna Ibarra

Present

Raymond F. Slattery

Present

SUPERVISOR:

Angel Contreras

Present

CLERK:

Alicia Morales

Present

OTHER OFFICIALS: Hwy Commissioner Vince Alessio

Present

ALSO PRESENT: Township Attorney Brian Wellner. Township Senior Liaison Jeff Wallace, Township Finance Director Ivan Diaz, Animal Control Director Whitney McGill, General Assistance Director Patricia Venziano.

Approval of the Minutes:

Regular Town Minutes: Trustee Ibarra moved to approve the minutes of the April 12th, 2022, Regular Town Board Meeting, Seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call vote was taken.¹

Public Comment:

Supervisor Contreras called for public comment. No public comment.

Supervisor Contreras called for a motion to go into public hearing to award BID GT2022-02 -Grave Open & Close Services/Oakwood Cemetery. Trustee Ibarra moved to go into public hearing, seconded by Trustee Escutia: A roll call vote was taken.²

Joliet Township went into public hearing at 5:03 and reconvened to regular session at 5:24 pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Contreras requested a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 376-2022 Budget & Appropriation Town. Trustee Ibarra motioned to adopt; it was seconded by Trustee Escutia. A roll call vote was taken.3

¹ Roll call vote: Ayes (4) Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia, & Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

² Roll call vote: Ayes (4) Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia, & Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

³ Roll call vote: Ayes (4) Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia, & Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

Supervisor Contreras noted that Ordinance No. 2022-02 (RD) Road District Transfer of Appropriation was the same situation as the previous two ordinances and Finance Director agreed. Trustee Ray Slattery motioned to approve & adopt the Ordinance No. 2022-02 Road District Transfer of Appropriation Seconded by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken.⁴

Supervisor Contreras requested motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-03 (RD)/Budget & Appropriation Road District. Trustee Slattery motioned to adopt; it was seconded by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken.⁵

Supervisor Contreras requested a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 379-2022/IGA with Crest Hill for Animal Control Services to update IGA after 2 decades with legal counsel. Trustee Ibarra motioned to adopt; it was seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call vote was taken.⁶

Supervisor Contreras requested to table Ordinance No. 380-2022/IGA w/ Rockdale for Animal Control Services because the chief of Rockdale stated he would like to review it further. It does not sound like it will change. Roll call was taken to table that. Trustee Ibarra motioned to table. A roll call vote was taken.⁷

Supervisor Contreras motioned to adopt resolution 2022-02 of Approving Oakwood Cemetery to set rates for cremation burials. Joliet Township had rates in place when it was taken over; however, not for new burials or for plots already owned. The Township Cemetery contractor coordinated contracts for township. The township rates are well under corporate cemetery rates. Intern Darrick Mainor has been working on developing software platform to organize and digitize every single plot, so all genealogy requests are modernized and accessible to the families of loved ones. Darrick is also working with the Historical Museum. Trustee Ibarra motioned to approve Resolution and second by Trustee Escutia. A roll call vote was taken.⁸

Review of Grant Applicants: Supervisors office reached out to agencies that applied and will informed that they will be conducting interviews. They were informed that their applications were sent to the trustees and are being reviewed. Trista Graves Brown spoke on her application for "Speak Up", Donnie Chestnut spoke on her application for the "YMCA" and Tycee Bell spoke on her application for "Fighting Chance Foundation".

REPORTS:

Senior Liaison March Meetings, Jeff Wallace:

Senior Citizen associate 102 members were present. Jim Riley is running for county sheriff. Dr. Lisa of audiology explained what causes ear loss and the screen did not work. Suzanna and Jeff provided raffle prizes 50/50 was held. St. Joes seniors- 52 members were present. Rich introduced a new member. Lunch was served and calendars were provided, and a 50/50 raffle was held. 428 Seniors 39 members were present. Do not meet in June-August. Box lunch was served, and Jeff provided senior service calendars and magazine novation and heavenly hearts was entertainment. 50/50 Raffle was held. Retired teacher 55 members were in attendance. No senior services calendar has yet been released. Suzanne was introduced and provided information of Township and senior citizen programs provided and passed put cards. Judge Sarah discussed credentials and support of membership. One of the officers took a collection for Ukraine. Funds were matched, membership donated and gave \$1500 to Ukraine teaching association after matching with American federation of teachers close to \$800 from treasurer. Door prizes were

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⁸ Roll call vote: Ayes (4) Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia, & Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

⁷ Roll call vote: Ayes (4) Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia, & Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

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given away and a 50/50 Raffle was done. SOAR ate at silver spoon with 23 members in attendance. Jeff briefly discussed Township government and how it was established. Suzanna followed up. Moose senior 38 members were present served 49 dinner and 81 dollars were raised in tips. Veterans group in progress. Snacks and door prizes were provided. St. Paul lights 52 members were in attendance. Jeff explained a flag folding demonstration on July 6 and got 2 Veteran volunteers. Service senior calendars and door prizes. Suzanna then explained vaccination services and costs for animals in Township. Hartman Center will be providing a Zumba class.

General Assistance Director, Patricia Venziano:

The partnership with Will County Ctr, for Community Concerns, (WCCCC), resulted in 295, 2022 tax returns being prepared. Joliet Township prepared, 67, 2022 returns. In addition to the returns for 2022 that were prepared we prepared 13 for 2020, 4 for 2019 and 3 for 2018. This brings the total of returns processed by the township office to 87. Overall results of 315 tax returns prepared. Minimum income limits were raised for emergency assistance to meet 100% poverty level as determined by HUD for 2022 and given a 10% raise to the payout amounts.

Sue and Soledad attended the job fair at Harrah's sponsored by Catholic Charities. Sue and Soledad also attended a training in East Peoria sponsored by ILLINOIS TOWNSHIP ASSOCIATION OF GENERAL ASSISTANCE CASEWORKERS. This training gave them updates and additional information on programs from Medicare/Medicaid/ACA, DHS, IHDA and Social Security Disability. Soledad attended the Healthy families fair at WCCCC and reported that it was a huge success. She was able to provide information on township services to multiple families. Joliet Township will be hosting WCCCC at our office on May 26 to provide LIHEAP outreach. Interested township residents will be able to come to our office to apply for utility assistance. The medical loan closet continues to have a regular flow of residents in need.

Animal Control Director, Whitney McGill:

Eagle Scouts gave the outside of the building a new welcoming appearance by planting new flowers, adding lively decorations, fresh mulch, including a new bench so people can sit there with their animals. They hired a new employee. Met with architect regarding expansion and reported details to Supervisor Contreras. She spent the day at Will County Center for Community Concerns during Family Fun Day and educated pubic on importance of microchips and services provided by Animal Control. They were invited back next year. A new van was picked up and is in use. Sponsoring Pet Day at ballpark this summer in partnership with Joliet Township.

Highway Commissioner, Vince Alessio:

Road District is starting new programs. They will have new signs for weight limits on every road. Per the direction of the County, signage regarding weight limit on either side of every single road will be posted. The Road District can't enforce truck traffic, they cannot ticket them or pull them over; however, they can direct them to the signs. Working with county to get truck parking ordinance in place so enforcement can begin. The limits are enforced by the county. Commissioner Alessio says he will get aggressive and do everything he is able to help. Garbage has been an issue. His staff travels their snow route and conduct daily rounds across township every single day to pick up garbage. His office has responded to residents from the last meeting. He received an e-mail from a resident that provided good feedback of time and effectiveness of garbage cleanup. Commissioner Alessio encouraged everyone to continue calling if they need anything.

Clerk Alicia Morales:

Working on day to day and preparing agenda. Working with an intern for layout and content for the newsletter and website. She's been organizing the approved ordinances to ensure compliance. She has been working on the Grant application and has attended meetings with Supervisor Contreras at Slammers and Park District Board meetings to continue building partnerships. She is helping organize a garbage clean-up on Colling St. JJC has donated supplies for the clean-up.

<u>Supervisor's Report: Angel Contreras</u> – Supervisor Contreras stated that once an agency has had twice failed bids, they can hire for that service; however, he needs to verify if that is within the municipal code first. He did reach out to prior contractor that specializes in grave digging; however, they are retired and are not interested in placing a bid. Supervisor Contreras will work with Attorney Brian to ensure accuracy. The township will continue to partner with more organizations within the community. Supervisor Contreras met with Chicago Painters Union with their main director for training apprenticeships. They want to open an official partnership with the Township so that the Township is doing the vetting and training through their resources.

CASH RECEIPTS: Trustee Slattery motioned to place the cash receipts into the proper accounts. Cash receipts for period ending in May 10 of \$53,665.29. Motioned was seconded by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken.⁹

FUND EXPENDITURES

The Supervisor presented the following invoices for Town Board approval:

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify as being correct and approve for payment cash disbursements of the following accounts:

General Town Fund \$110,215.58

Motion by Trustee Slattery to certify cash expenditures as being correct and approve for payment.

Second: Trustee Escutia A roll call vote was taken.¹⁰

Capital Town Fund No bills were presented for this fund.

Road and Bridge Fund \$137,355.01

Motion by Trustee Slattery to certify expenditures as being correct and approve them for payment.

Second: Trustee Ibarra A roll call vote was taken.¹¹

Township Senior Fund \$3,000.00

Motion by Trustee Slattery to certify expenditures as being correct and approve them for payment.

Second by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken.¹²

General Assistance \$18,940.00

Motion by Trustee Slattery to certify cash expenditures as being correct and approve for payment.

Second: Trustee Ibarra A roll call vote was taken.¹³

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Animal Control \$49,869.70

Motion by Trustee Slattery to certify expenditures as being correct and approve them for payment.

Second: Trustee Escutia A roll call vote was taken.¹⁴

Supervisor Contreras noted that there will be an on-line template for anyone who is interested. The first one will be Senior Services committee. The committee will need a secretary to take notes as they are subject to the open meetings act.

Closed Session: None

Adjournment: Trustee Ibarra moved to adjourn the regular town board meeting to Tuesday, May 10th, 2022, at 6:10 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Escutia. A roll call vote was taken.¹⁵

Respectfully submitted,

Hicia Morales.

Town Clerk

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