



The regular town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, Tuesday, December 20, 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
	Suzanna Ibarra	Present
	Raymond F. Slattery	Present
	Karl Ferrell	Present
SUPERVISOR:	Angel Contreras	Present
CLERK:	Alicia Morales	Present
OTHER OFFICIALS:	Hwy Commissioner Vince Alessio	Not Present
	Assessor Jim Brenczewski	Present

ALSO PRESENT: Township Attorney Brian Wellner, Township Finance Director Ivan Diaz, and Executive Assistant to Township Supervisor Ana Campa Castillo.

Approval of the Minutes:

Special Town Board Minutes: Trustee Ibarra moved to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2022, Special Town Board Meeting, Seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call vote was taken.¹

Public Comment:

Ms. Latoya Medina Applied for a grant to open a youth center for children suffering from the loss of someone from domestic violence. Ms. Medina was seeking a status update on her grant application. Supervisor Contreras explained how the grant process works; Ms. Medina stated she heard the Township was trying to purchase the Peter Cleaver Center. Supervisor Contreras responded that there is nothing formalized with the purchase of the Peter Cleaver Center and that she can locate her organization anywhere she likes.

Garland Mays, Chairman of the Joliet Township Democratic Party. Mr. Mays commented on how everyone is to be held accountable. Everyone, no matter their race, gender, faith, ethnicity, or political ideology. He is a true believer in second chances, and he knows people make mistakes. For the past 16-17 years, he has held other

¹ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Farrell not present.

organizations accountable, and therefore he holds the trustees accountable. Mr. Mayes continued stating that he has so much respect for Angel (Supervisor Contreras) and Alicia (Clerk Morales) as well as the Trustee's. He mentioned that when this democratic slate was picked and were encouraged to move forward as trustee's, He stated that everyone took an oath to the constituents and the taxpayers stating that everything they will do, will be in the best interest of Joliet Township. Moving forward, "if you don't hold your self-accountable and others with you accountable, no one will ever believe in you". As Mr. Mayes continued to address the front table, he said the following: "Our taxpayers have a right! They are right to believe in this system, and if you're not doing it right, please find something else to do. No one asked you to be in politics. This is something that you want to do. This is not a thin skin game, so since you've chosen this, make sure that you are doing the right things by the number one, taxpayers."

Public Hearing:

- No Public Hearing.

New Business:

Supervisor Contreras asks for a Motion to approve the Grant for the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic Health Partnership Housing and Healthcare Initiative/Diversion Project. Supervisor Contreras stated that he and Clerk Morales have been involved with multiple organizations within the City of Joliet. There are several homeless encampments in the City of Joliet and the majority of them are on the Joliet Township boundaries. Both Supervisor Contreras and Clerk Morales have met with First Responders and County Officials. Will-Grundy Medical Clinic is also involved, and they have asked if Joliet Township is willing to provide a small portion of what the City of Joliet is providing. Will-Grundy Medical Clinic is expecting the City of Joliet to provide them with \$280,000 dollars PLUS and asked that Joliet Township help with \$10,000 Dollars for emergency housing for the winter for the homeless and for their diversion program. Supervisor Contreras said that he feels that we can help if it is within our jurisdiction. Will-Grundy Medical Clinic is also seeking help for long-term solutions. Trustee Slattery asked if this money is within the Township's budget, to which Supervisor Contreras replies with "Correct". Trustee Escutia asked for some clarification and Supervisor Contreras clarified. Trustee Ibarra makes a motion to approve, Seconded by Trustee Escutia. A roll call was taken.² Motion carried.

Supervisor Contreras asks for a Motion to approve / designation of transfer of Township funds and moneys from Old National Bank to Midland Bank. He said that he and Finance Director Ivan Diaz spoke with Midland Bank approximately five or six months ago. They would open the same type of accounts with Midland Bank that they have with Old National Bank. Trustee Ibarra makes a motion to approve, Seconded by Trustee Escutia. A roll call was taken. Trustee Farrell joined the meeting at 5:15 P.M. ³ Motion carried.

Trustee Farrell asked a question to the Township Attorney Brian Wellner asking if it must be noted that he came into the meeting, and Attorney Wellner responded that yes, it has to be recorded so that he is included in the roll call at the time of the vote.

Supervisor Contreras asks for the review of the Clark Annual Report 2022 for Joliet Township.

Supervisor Contreras asks for a Motion to approve the Road District Levy Ordinance No. 2022-05 (RD). Trustee Ibarra makes a motion to approve, Seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call was taken.⁴ Motion carried.

Supervisor Contreras asks for a Motion to approve the Town Levy Ordinance No. 383-2022. Trustee Slattery makes a motion to approve, Seconded by Trustee Escutia. A roll call was taken.⁵ Motion carried.

² Roll call vote: Ayes (3). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Farrell not present.

³ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Farrell present during roll call.

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

⁵ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

Reports:

Highway Commissioner, Vince Alessio

Supervisor Contreras states the Highway Commissioner's reports are in the Trustee's packet. Highway Commissioner Vince Alessio tested positive for Covid two days ago.

Township Assessor, Jim Brenzewski

Assessor Jim Brenzewski states that he lost his Commercial Appraiser to the County, further stating that Dale Butella, began his employment with Will County on October 31st and that his office has been short staffed. Assessor Brenzewski will be seeking to hire a new Commercial Appraiser and Clerk Morales will assist him with uploading the job description in Indeed after he writes it. "This is too vital of a position not to have someone" said Assessor Brenzewski. Other than this, the Assessor's office is preparing for the beginning of the new year, and they are cleaning everything up and making sure everything is in its proper position. Trustee Escutia asked what the actual job title will be for the new position he intends to hire for, the Assessor responded, "Commercial Appraiser".

Trustee Slattery asked about the final payroll check for Dale Butella If it was \$9,056.00 and how did it get so high? Assessor Brenzewski responded that Dale Butella carried over his vacation days. Trustee Ibarra asked how soon are they looking to replace Dale, the Assessor responded "yesterday" [everyone laughs] and then he proceeds to say that for this position you either need to have a CIAO or CAE and experience in commercial appraising.

Senior Liaison, Jeff Wallace

Senior Liaison Wallace gave everyone a copy of his report. He just wanted to comment on the following:

- He has been meeting with his with his senior groups and he has been talking about the temporary handicap placards to everyone. And he has updated all his Senior groups what Senior Citizens on Center Street is doing and what they are not doing.
- He visited the Joliet Public Library (lower level) and took a tour of what they do for free, for those who have a library card and live in the City of Joliet. They have a lot of free services; however, they charge for printing paper or having T-Shirts printed. Some of the free services include downloading reel-to-reel and/or VHS tapes onto a hard drive or a CD. However, you must do it yourself. They can also help guide you. The library also helps restore old photos.

Senior Liaison thanked the Town Board and Clerk Morales for allowing him to tour the library and see what all they offer. He finished off by telling Trustee Ibarra that he also spoke to someone she tried helping as well. The person in question was assisted by both Senior Liaison Wallace and Trustee Ibarra and now has a backup plan.

Animal Control Director, Whitney McGill

AC Director McGill attended the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association Conference along with the Vet Techs. They were able to attend many sessions to advance their knowledge and animal behavior and handling and medicating proper treatment among other topics. They each learned a lot. AC Director McGill was able to obtain enough continuing education hours through her new Certified Veterinary Technician License.

For Thanksgiving, the shelter animals had a special feast. Every staff member took something from a traditional Thanksgiving side so that the animals can enjoy Turkey, potatoes, green beans, carrots, corn, and all different things this year. Supervisor Contreras and AC Director McGill helped serve the meals and there were no complaints from any of the shelter residents about their food or service.

Supervisor Contreras, Finance Director Ivan Diaz and AC Director McGill met with a contractor about updating the kennels and they anticipate getting that project up and running within the next few weeks. Trustee Ibarra asked AC Director if there are any future plans for low-cost vaccinations? AC Director replied that they are working with the Smith Society - so anyone that calls, Animal Control will send to them, and they can provide the same services at the same cost as Animal Control, low-cost vaccines and low-cost neuters as well however these are on certain days of the week.

Finance Director, Ivan Diaz

Finance Director Diaz has been working with his contact Jennifer at Midland Bank. She has been very helpful, and she has established what Joliet Township will need. He has also been working on the year end forms to get these out and ready in a timely manner. He has also been finishing ARPA. Trustee Slattery question the Cash Receipts stating that it appears that did you receive the first 5 installments all at once? Finance Director Diaz responded that it was withdrawn. It's been in the Illinois fund account and in the beginning of the year we

lost access to it because it was under the old contact information and to get that changed was tedious. It took a while to get it transferred. Some of it will go to the Road District.

Clerk, Alicia Morales

Clerk Morales greeted everyone and thanked Executive Assistant to Township Supervisor Ana Campa Castillo for helping by wrapping up the Open Enrollment for the Township Employees. The benefits must be reviewed annually and there were no increases in the cost of insurance for staff. Medical, dental and vision costs were all very cost effective. Everyone at the Township and Road District was able to get their benefits updated.

Township employees met with an AFLAC representative who met individually with everyone regarding other benefits that can be purchased individually. Earlier in November, The Clerk and Deputy Clerk attended a TOI conference in Springfield. This conference was an eye opener and very informative for both the Clerk and Deputy Clerk. Something of the highlights were: the how Township government can help and how we use a lot of the guidelines from the State of Illinois within Illinois Department of Human Services. I shared some of these resources with Alejandra from General Assistance. I think it would have been a great conference for General Assistance to attend and so that we are not having idle time and that our staff is always working at the maximum capacity. She attended another workshop for not only the Supervisor but for the Highway Commissioner. There they went in depth on the inner governmental agreements the authority for intergovernmental agreements and one of the several benefits with intergovernmental agreements for example are cooperative planning, shared infrastructure, and resources greater access to services, more efficient operations, increase capital, improve community relations, and maximize the tax dollars. I think if we stop working in silos and we work together with other local government agencies, of course we're going to achieve all those goals. Other Townships and Highway Commissioners are currently doing things for their local school districts such as cleaning the parking lots or cleaning for like the senior citizens. So, these are conversations that the Clerk is having with the Highway Commissioner to see if that's something that we're currently doing and if not, how we do it. The Clerk has information about where the Highway Commissioner can call to see if these services can be modeled, if we can do it, if we have the capacity to do it so that we can maximize our tax dollars. The Clerk wrapped up by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Supervisor, Angel Contreras

Supervisor Contreras reported that they applied for a grant from IDHS and they are in the finishing stages. They are still switching things over from the previous administration to the new administration. This has been taking months and he has been in communication with everyone. As soon as there is a final approval, Supervisor Contreras will notify everyone. Everything thing else, it had been business as usual, and he finished off by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

Cash Receipts:

Trustee Slattery motioned to place the cash receipts into the proper accounts. Trustee Ibarra seconded. A roll call vote was taken. ⁶ Motion carried.

Fund Expenditures:

Trustee Slattery motioned to approve the following expenditures:

General Town Fund: \$257,123.81

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the expenditures of the general town fund as correct and approve them for payment. Trustee Escutia seconded. A roll call was taken. ⁷ Motion carried.

Capital Town Fund: No Bills were presented for this fund.

General Assistance Fund: \$38,643.50

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the cash disbursements and approve them for payment. Trustee Escutia seconded. A roll call was taken. ⁸ Motion carried.

⁶ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

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

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

Road and Bridge Fund: \$203,510.28

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the cash disbursements and approve them for payment. Trustee Escutia seconded. A roll call was taken. ⁹ Motion carried.

Animal Control Fund: \$101,837.50

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the cash disbursements and approve them for payment. Trustee Ibarra seconded. A roll call was taken. ¹⁰ Motion carried.

Senior Fund: \$119,500.00

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the amount as correct and approve them for payment. Trustee Escutia seconded. A roll call was taken. ¹¹ Motion carried.

EXTRA COMMENTS:

With regards to the earlier general public comments that were heard in today's town board meeting, Trustee Ibarra commented that "She has a great respect for the law and that her entire life she has had respect for the law and she believes no one is above the law, she believes in it and she hopes everyone has a Happy Holiday and Merry Christmas".

Trustee Slattery wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

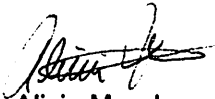
Supervisor Contreras wished everyone a great Holiday and thanked everyone for joining the meeting.

Closed Session: None

Adjournment

Trustee Ibarra moved to adjourn the regular town board meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2022, at 5:43pm. It was seconded by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken. ¹² Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Alicia Morales
Town Clerk

⁹ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Farrell not present.

¹⁰ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Farrell not present.

¹¹ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Farrell not present.

¹² Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Escutia and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Farrell not present.