

**Minutes**  
**172nd Annual Town Meeting**  
**April 12, 2022**

STATE OF ILLINOIS    )  
COUNTY OF WILL     )  
TOWNSHIP OF JOLIET )

The Annual Town meeting scheduled to be held in said Township and County in the State of Illinois, 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township Government Offices, Town Hall Meeting Room, on April 12, 2022 was called to order by Township Clerk Alicia Morales at 6:08 p.m. The following official business was transacted:

Clerk Morales welcomed everyone to the 172<sup>nd</sup> Joliet Township Annual Town Meeting.  
Clerk Morales called on Supervisor Angel Contreras to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Verification of the Call**

Clerk Morales verified that the legal notice for this Annual Town Meeting was published on March 1, 2022 in the Joliet Herald-News, that newspaper being one of general circulation in Joliet Township. Notices of the Annual Town Meeting were also posted at:

- City of Joliet,
- County of Will
- Joliet Public Library, East & West satellites
- Township Government offices and Meeting Room
- Township Website and Facebook page

**Election of the Moderator**

The Clerk called for the election of a moderator for the meeting.

Mr. Cesar Escutia moved to nominate Ms. Amy Sanchez for moderator of this meeting. Seconded by Mr. Suzanna Ibarra. The Clerk called two additional times to see if there were any other nominations for a moderator. Clerk Morales stated, we have one nomination for Moderator, Ms. Amy Sanchez. She called for the voice vote to elect Ms. Amy Sanchez as Moderator and the motion passed unanimously.

Clerk Morales administered the Oath of Moderator for the 172<sup>nd</sup> Town Hall Meeting to Ms. Amy Sanchez. Ms. Sanchez thanked everyone and asked Ms. Marge Fleet to provide the History of the Township to the residents in attendance.

**Township History:** Read out loud by Joliet Township Resident Marge Fleet.

**Township Duties:** Read out loud by Clerk Alicia Morales

**Minutes:** Clerk Morales presented the 2021 Annual Town Meeting minutes of March 23, 2021, which have been made available in copy form for these in attendance. Marge Fleet moved to approve the 2021 Annual Town Meeting of March 23, 2021, minutes seconded by Ms. Megan Cooper. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

## **Introductions**

The Moderator introduced the Township Officials present at this 2022 Annual Town Meeting. Trustee Cesar Escutia, Trustee Suzanna Ibarra, Trustee Ray Slattery, Supervisor Angel Contreras, Trustee Karl Ferrell and Township Assessor James Brenczewski, Township Clerk Alicia Morales. Highway Commissioner Vince Alessio was present; however, had to leave.

## **Financial Statements**

The Moderator stated that the financial statements of the Township have been posted in the Town Hall meeting room, Joliet Township Government Offices, copies have been made available in the reception area since last Monday to the overall community and to all those present this evening. The Township financials are also posted on the East side of board room and the Road District are posted on the West side of the room. Moderator Amy Sanchez inquired if there were any questions or remarks regarding the statements. There being none, she requested a motion to approve both reports. Jeff Wallace made a motion to approve the Supervisor's Financial Report as well as the Road District financial report. It was seconded by resident Mr. Woodrow McNair Jr. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously by a show of vote cards.

## **Presentation of Grant Awards:**

Warehouse Workers for Justice award of \$5,000  
VFW 367 Post was awarded \$14,775  
Spanish Community Center awarded \$4,000  
Family and Friends awarded \$7,500  
Joliet Park District awarded \$35,400

## **Discussion on Resident Requests:**

Clerk explained the "Powers of the Electors" are on the green sheet provided to everyone. Supervisor clarified that only the items on the green sheet are votable when they are also on the agenda.

- **Cleaning and Disposal units for trash services:**  
Meghan Cooper spoke about dumping tires, paint buckets, etc. Would like to see initiative on proper disposal of trash a couple of times per year.
- **Meeting Streamed and Posted on You Tube:**  
Rachel Ventura stated the Township is able to post on Facebook since FB does not have restriction with loading the videos. The Township is also posting the video on the township website; however, there is no cloud server yet so it's taking a little longer with loading an hour-long video on YouTube because the township has not received a code to do so yet. The Township is doing its best to upload on Facebook. Meghan Cooper stated she's taken an interest in Joliet, School Board, City, etc. She noted the videos are on FB but many don't have FB and it's easier to log into YouTube as there is an ability to have the video translated and it promotes transparency.
- **Jobs for Youth Programs:** Suzanne Ibarra spoke on bringing back jobs for at risk youth to give them a sense of responsibility and an opportunity to earn income.
- **Senior Citizen Sidewalk** Suzanne Ibarra stated that seniors can't afford sidewalks repaired and broken sidewalks are problematic. She would like to see a subsidy offered to seniors on a fixed income.
- **Support Group for Abused Women:** No discussion
- **Black Historical Museum:** No discussion

- **Workforce Training and Skills Program:** No discussion
- **Beautify Neighborhood Program:** Suzanna Ibarra noted this is a great opportunity for the Road District to help during off times. There's a lot of areas outside of the city where there's dumping off of Rosalind St. People just dump and no one comes to clean up. DeAndre Smith, shared photos from Moor Ave. and Joliet St. by Preston Heights area. Most of the dumping is coming from the Pheasant Run apartments. This area used to be middle class. The road district used to take care of all of the clean up and he is unsure why they stopped. The churches do a lot of the clean up now. Will County has an "Adopt a Road" program where they give you clean-up supplies. He has inquired about this with the RD, but he has not made any headway past the secretary. The Road District used to allow people to leave tires in front of the gate and they would dispose of them. They need to get out of the truck to do this because 3-4 people in the truck won't cut it with a coke bottle. You can't have 3 people in a pickup truck to go do labor for the Road District for our tax dollars. They must work for their money; it's not being given away.

### **Comments from Township Officials**

Trustee Karl Ferrell provided a status update about his trustee role and the future of this role. Trustee Suzanne Ibarra stated she supports Trustee Ferrell. Clerk Morales stated her office is to make the township videos available and her office is working on getting them on YouTube. She encouraged civility and stated the township must work within its budget. Jeff Wallace, Senior Liaison, stated he's only known this team since last March, and he is very proud to be a part of this organization. He noted that this team is very proactive.

### **Public Comment:**

Nicole Lurry inquired if the township supports Trustee Karl Ferrell

Megan Cooper, called for accountability and stated that taxpayers should know what is being voted on. She encouraged people to speak up.

Robert Jordan stated people are quick to complain and he wants to thank the Township for what they are currently doing. He stated his boss received a grant today. He stated he met Supervisor Contreras today and he was very impressed with him because all he did was ask how the Township can help the veterans more.

Tyce Bell, followed up on the support of Trustee Karl Ferrell and asked how is the support being given to stand with him?

DeAndre Smith owns Brickhouse Investments. He stated the semi-trucks are denigrating our neighborhoods and they lower our property values. He pointed out the EAV and tax rate. He inquired as to where the finance reports are available. Clerk Morales stated that they are available in the reception area for walk-ins to view and they are online.

Rachel Ventura stated she supports Trustee Karl Ferrell and believes he should be pardoned by the governor. She encouraged everyone to call the Township officials if they need anything.

Jeff Wallace stated that he supports Karl Ferrell. Mr. Wallace stated that when he ran for office, he never filled out a form verifying if he had ever committed a crime and therefore, it's not his fault and he supports Mr. Ferrell.

### **Public Remarks/Citizens to be Heard**

Ange Contreras stated that the electorate spoke on the message Karl Ferrell brought and chose him to be a representative. Angel Contreras supports Karl Ferrell.

Alicia Morales noted she supports Karl Ferrell. She reminded guests that District 86 and District 204 receive 80% of taxpayer dollars and so the guests should attend tomorrow's District 86 board meeting since they are going to be voting on salaries.

Karl Ferrell is trying to remove permanent punishment through a "Fully Free" campaign, through Bill HB4490 and SB3298.

Suzanna Ibarra thanked Amy Sanchez for being the moderator and congratulated her on doing a great job.

**Statement from the Supervisor**

All input is not taken for granted. All criticisms are welcome. Perfect is the enemy of good. Nothing will ever be perfect. He's hopeful that next year we are in a bigger place with air conditioning. All our township staff have great connections, Sue Bustin has been great. He noted that it is his responsibility to find the answer for anything he does not know. Joliet Township does not have a community center. He stated that his mission is not only what we do with the tax dollars but what the Township does with our connections within the community. If there is ever any anger or frustration, you should reach out to him to get a direct answer. There are so many great organizations in Joliet, but one of the biggest barriers is that everyone lives in their own little island. He does not want to duplicate services but instead prefers to assist those who are already providing great services.

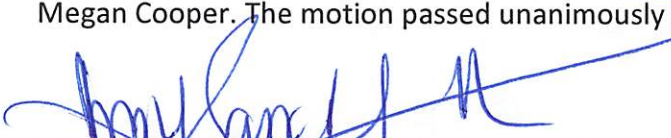
**Motion to set time for next Annual Town Meeting**

The Moderator stated that the Annual Town Meetings are set by law and are to be held on the second Tuesday of April. The date is set by statute for April 11, 2023. Trustee Susanna made a motion to set the time of the 2023 Annual Town Meeting for 6:15 p.m. on April 11, 2023. Angel Contreras seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a show of vote cards.

The Moderator asked if there was any other business to discuss. There was none. She then called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Adjournment**

Trustee Suzanne Ibarra moved to adjourn the 2022 Annual Town Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Megan Cooper. The motion passed unanimously by a show of clappers. The meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.



---

Moderator, Amy Sanchez



---

Township Clerk, Alicia Morales