



The regular town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 5:02 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	Not 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	Present
	Assessor Jim Brenczewski	Not Present

ALSO PRESENT: Township Attorney Bryan Wellner, Deputy Clerk Veronica Aguilera, and Executive Assistant to Township Supervisor Ana Campa Castillo.

Approval of the Minutes:

Town Board Minutes: Trustee Ibarra moved to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2022, Town Board Meeting, Seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call vote was taken.¹

Public Comment: No Public Comment.

New Business:

Supervisor Contreras talks about the new Grants Submitted for the new Fiscal Year. These applications are in the Trustee's packets. He mentions that he will email and speak to everyone and next week. As of now, we are not taking any action on these grant applications.

Trustee Ibarra makes a motion to approve the Special Town Meeting scheduled for January 24, 2023, at 6:00P.M., Seconded by Trustee Farrell. A roll call was taken.² Motion carried.

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

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

Reports:

Highway Commissioner, Vince Alessio

Highway Commissioner Vince Alessio thanked the Road District staff who have worked over 24 hours in a row snow plowing during the beginning of the year. Commissioner Alessio stated that upon becoming the Highway Commissioner, the Road District has also renewed their communication with the City of Joliet so that they work together. This is the second year of having good communication and everyone is very happy. The Road District takes portions of the City of Joliet's roads and vice versa, so that it makes sense for all taxpayers. With regards to the drainage issues on the corner of Berger and Spencer Rds., Highway Commissioner met with the engineers and believes there may be a solution, however it may be a large investment. This is a recurring problem since there is land that is interrupting the natural flow of water. Highway Commissioner was excited to share that he has allowed the Engineers to move forward with seeking a solution. The Road District has set out bids and they have three applicants, to which they have reached out to two applicants

There is a temporary employee that has been helping during the snow events. This employee has been of great help since there was a regular employee who needed to take a week off for a funeral. Having this temporary employee has been a great advantage because otherwise, my regular employee wouldn't have had the opportunity to take the necessary time off to attend the funeral and be with their family. As far as the shop, the guys are keeping the summer equipment maintained and serving the residents as they receive calls on a day-to-day basis.

General Assistance, Patricia Venziano

General Assistance Director Patricia Venziano reports that Sue Bustin and Alejandra Zamudio have been busy representing the Township with various community events. The October LIHEAP event was of great success with 30 plus residents applying for assistance. The next LIHEAP event will be Wednesday, January 18, 2023 from 9:00 A.M – 3:00 P.M. Sue Bustin donated items not typically lent out such as gauze, catheters, etc., and drove them to Lockport since Lockport is donating items to Ukraine. Supervisor Contreras and Patricia were invited to collaborate with the United Way, Joliet Fire Dept., City of Joliet, Trinity Services and Will Grundy Medical Clinic to help house the unsheltered this winter. Due to COVID, many shelter beds were lost, thus has caused an excess number of people out in the streets. General Assistance has been informed that there has been an increase in funds from TIANA from the State, which means that the disbursement has been increased to \$340.00 given to single adult households with little or no income. In November 2022 GA Director Venziano was invited to speak at Governors State University to explain what resources the Townships provide. GSU also provides students with resources. Since GSU has a program called "GSU for You" that helps students in need and some of those enrolled students are from Joliet, GSU invited Patricia to go and speak. She was also asked to return later this month (Jan 2023) to address a small group of staff members that work in the Family Development Center. General and Emergency Assistance has increased as well as the number of residents that have come in for a handicapped placard. Since Tax season is approaching, GA Director Venziano and Alejandra Zamudio have now been certified with the IRS and both are getting ready to partner up with Community Concerns once again however the returns will go under our Site ID and E-file number so that proper credit is given to us.

Trustee Ibarra asked GA Director Venziano to please reiterate the disbursement for single adult households. GA Director Venziano responded: "The amount that GA gives is based upon the Single Adult dollar value that is given by DHS for an adult household. Last year the dollar amount was \$322.00 and this year it will be \$340.00".

Finance Director, Ivan Diaz

Finance Director Diaz could not be present. He had an Emergency. His reports are in the packet.

Senior Liaison, Jeff Wallace

Senior Liaison Wallace could not be present. He wasn't feeling well. His reports are in the packet.

Animal Control Director, Whitney McGill

December was a busy month for Animal Control. They were involved with a cat hoarding case, to which thirty-three 33 cats were recovered from a condemned house. Many of those cats had health concerns, several were blind, a few cats had had their ears cut off and thirteen (13) had skin infections. Most of the cats were very

friendly. AC was able to get the cats with skin infections healed, the cats with the ears cut off were found rescues for them and the others were adopted. There are only five (5) cats left to which three (3) are looking for a home and two (2) are looking for a rescue. Animal Control also hosted "Grinch with Pet" pictures for the Holiday, which was a great event because many people showed up for with their pets. The photographer had a set of three families for very five (5) minute session. Next year they hope to extend the event by an hour or two (2) since it was so popular this year. Supervisor Contreras and AC Director McGill are meeting with the contractors next week to get the ball moving on the kennel improvements.

Clerk Alicia Morales

The clerks' office has been day-to-day, business as usual. The December meeting for the Club Social Latino was suspended due to the weather, however it will resume in January. In January, The Golden Stars Youth Club had their first trimester of students that received their certificate for the first phase of the program, and this was a great success. Our office continues to stay in contact with the Latino Senior Clubs, Spanish speakers, to make sure they stay engaged and that they are informed, and we continue to give them applications for the eyeglasses and the hearing aids through the Lyon's club. Trustee Ibarra asked Clerk Morales when the next meeting for Club Social Latino will be, and Clerk Morales replied "January 7th, 21st, and 28th from 9:30A.M. to 10:30A.M. as they are also including Zumba for seniors. Anyone can attend, however if you are not a senior or age 51 or more, you would have to pay \$5.00. Everyone is welcome to join, this will be at 625 N. Collins St, Joliet at the Mount Carmel Hall and the parking is in the back.

Township Assessor, Jim Brenzewski

No report.

Supervisor, Angel Contreras

The last few weeks have been pretty busy. The Supervisor has contacted the Trustee's regarding the grant that the Township applied for through IDHS for the violence intervention program. \$1.9 million dollars were approved on January 3rd and all the funds were allocated, so we now have an entirely new division with eighteen (18) full-time employees that need to be hired through the township. This goes beyond our boundaries since this grant is written for the Joliet area. The Township is following instructions and onboard with IDHS since we need to build this program from the ground up. Lots of training will be happening within the next few weeks and perhaps into the next month. This program will allow us to be more involved in the community. This new program is being taken very seriously because we want this program to be here to stay and to always be funded. This is exciting. If anything changes or if there are any major status updates, the Supervisor will contact the trustees to inform them. Clerk Morales asks to give Supervisor Contreras a big round of applause and his Executive Assistant Ana Campa Castillo for all their hard work. He also mentioned that this is something so big and this cannot be taken for granted. Trustee Ibarra congratulated all of the day-to-day staff, Ana, Alicia, Alejandra, Veronica and everyone that had the vision to be able to have an effect on gun violence prevention. She said she is completely overwhelmed and so proud of everyone to have this vision and to want to change things. Clerk Morales thanked Trustee Ibarra stating, "your words mean a lot and thanks for the acknowledgement" and she also thanked the Supervisor for having this vision and moving forward with it.

Cash Receipts:

Trustee Slattery motioned to approve the receipts and expenditures and place into their proper accounts for the December 20th, 2022 meeting first and then ones for the January 10th, 2023 meeting. Trustee Slattery makes the motion to approve for the December 20th, 2022 meeting and seconded by Trustee Farrell. A roll call vote was taken. ³ Motion carried.

³ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Ferrell and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Escutia not present.

Trustee Slattery makes the motion to approve cash receipts and have them placed into their proper accounts for the January 10th, 2023 meeting and seconded by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken. ⁴ Motion carried.

Fund Expenditures:

Trustee Slattery motioned to approve the following expenditures:

General Town Fund for December 20, 2022: \$257,123.81

General Town Fund for January 10, 2023: \$80,971.12

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the expenditures of the general town fund as correct and approve them for payment. Trustee Ibarra seconded. A roll call was taken. ⁵ Motion carried.

General Assistance Fund for December 20, 2022: \$38,643.50

General Assistance Fund for January 10, 2023: \$17,816.82

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the cash disbursements and approve them for payment. Trustee Ferrell seconded. A roll call was taken. ⁶ Motion carried.

Road and Bridge Fund for December 20, 2022: \$203,510.28

Road and Bridge Fund for January 10, 2023: \$128,067.24

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the cash disbursements and approve them for payment. Trustee Ferrell seconded. A roll call was taken. ⁷ Motion carried.

Animal Control Fund for December 20, 2022: \$101,837.50

Animal Control Fund for January 10, 2023: \$38,487.14

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

Senior Fund for December 20, 2022: \$119,500.00

Senior Fund for January 10, 2023: \$3,000.00

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the amount as correct and approve them for payment. Trustee Ibarra seconded. A roll call was taken. ⁹ Motion carried.

Capital Fund: No expenditures.

EXTRA COMMENTS:

Supervisor Contreras wanted to wish Clerk Morales a Happy Birthday. Supervisor Contreras stated that a closed session will take place to discuss more items per the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) & 2(c)(6).

Closed Session:

Trustee Ibarra makes a motion to go into closed session to discuss the purchase of release of real estate for the use of the public body and/or the setting of a price for the sale or a lease of a property owned by the public body. Seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call was taken. ¹⁰ Motion carried. For the record, this Motion was done at 5:30P.M.

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

⁵ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Ferrell and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Escutia not present.

⁶ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Ferrell and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Escutia not present.

⁷ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Slattery, Ibarra, Ferrell and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0). Trustee Escutia not present.

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

Adjournment

Trustee Slattery moves to adjourn the regular town board meeting on Tuesday, January 10th 2023 at 5:56P.M. it was seconded by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call was taken. ¹¹ Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,



Alicia Morales
Town Clerk

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