



The regular town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 5:00 P.M. was called to order by Supervisor Angel Contreras. The following official business was transacted:

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

TRUSTEES:	Tanya Arias	Present
	Antione J. Edwards	Present
	Cesar Escutia	Not Present
	Raymond F. Slattery	Present
SUPERVISOR:	Angel Contreras	Present
CLERK:	Alicia Morales	Present
OTHER OFFICIALS:	Commissioner Vince Alessio	Present
	Assessor James Brenzewski	Not Present

ALSO PRESENT:

Senior Liaison Jeff Wallace	Violence Prevention Director Keshia Ellis
Animal Control Director Whitney McGill	Assistant Director of Animal Control Becky Gomez
Transportation Director Jacqueline Smith	Director of Human Resources Erica Holmes
Finance Director Ivan Diaz	Executive Assistant Ana Campa Castillo
Deputy Clerk Estefany Bonilla	Attorney Bryan Wellner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Special Board Meeting Minutes: Supervisor Contreras asks for a motion. Trustee Slattery motions to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2024, Special Board Meeting, seconded by Trustee Arias. A roll call was taken. Motion Carried.¹

Public Bid Hearing for Contract 2024-02 (JTAC Vehicles) Minutes: Supervisor Contreras asks for a motion. Trustee Arias motions to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2024, Public Hearing for Contract 2024-02 (JTAC Vehicles), seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call was taken. Motion Carried.²

Public Bid Hearing for GT Contract 2024-01 (Oakwood Cemetery) Minutes: Supervisor Contreras asks for a motion. Trustee Edwards motions to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2024, Public Bid Hearing for GT 2024-01 (Oakwood Cemetery), seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call was taken. Motion Carried.³

Public Bid Hearing for Contract 2024-01 RD (Sugar Creek Bridge) Minutes: Supervisor Contreras asks for a motion. Trustee Slattery motions to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2024, Public Bid Hearing for Contract 2024-01 RD (Sugar Creek Bridge), seconded by Trustee Arias. A roll call was taken. Motion Carried.⁴

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

¹ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

² Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

³ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

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

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVE/Contract Renewal for Administrative Services for the Oakwood Cemetery

Supervisor Contreras asks for a motion to approve the renewal of said contract for administrative services for the Oakwood Cemetery. Trustee Edwards motions. Trustee Arias seconds. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.⁵

APPROVE/GT2024-01 Oakwood Cemetery Grass Cutting Services Contract 2024-2025

Supervisor Contreras asks for a motion to approve the GT2024-01 Oakwood Cemetery Grass Cutting Services Contract for 2024 to 2025. Trustee Slattery motions. Seconded by Trustee Edwards. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.⁶

APPROVE/Awardee Contract No. 2024-02 AC for the Purchase of Two New Vehicles from D'orazio Ford

Supervisor Contreras mentions that previous public hearings for these vehicles did not receive any bids. This would be the first public hearing for this contract that had three bids. Supervisor Contreras asks for a motion to approve the Awardee Contract for the Purchase of Two New Vehicles from D'orazio Ford. Trustee Edwards motions. Trustee Slattery seconds. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.⁷

REVIEW/Thriveworks Enterprise Master Service Agreement

Supervisor Contreras explains that some updates to the agreement will be changed as the current protocols require revision. No motion is required.

GRANTS RECEIVED:

Supervisor Contreras asked the Trustees to review the following grant applications, so that awardees can be chosen soon. The following are the grants to be reviewed National Center for Economics dba Illinois Youth and Family Services, History on Wheels, Justice for Wives Foundation, Joliet Latino Economic Development Association, Including You Inc, Golden Stars Casa de la Cultura, Grace and Truth Evangelistic Church of God in Christ, Perfecting Worship Center, One Collective NFP, Fighting Chance, The Hope Center of Joliet, Greater Joliet Area YMCA, After the Peanut Foundation.

OLD BUSINESS:

New Reports

Highway Commissioner, Vince Alessio

Commissioner Alessio mentions the public hearing that occurred for the Sugar Creek Bridge. This is something that has been in process since 2021. Projects regarding waterways take a while to be approved. The estimated cost was 1.5 and the bid came in as 1.2. The Road district has finished their tentative budget. Every year, there has been money that has rolled over from the previous year, giving the Road District more for projects. There are two part-time job openings that will be available on Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

Senior Liaison, Jeff Wallace

Mr. Wallace spoke with the Moose Seniors and the Paulites about the new transportation department. Mr. Wallace mentioned that three senior calendars have been made available and distributed them around. He also passed out fliers for the Home Energy Assistance program at the Moose Seniors club. Mr. Wallace is working with Josh from Digital Media Studio and has printed the informative fliers in color to make them more presentable for the public.

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

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

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

Animal Control Director, Whitney McGill

On Tuesday, March 5th, JTAC hosted a learning day for the JJC Veterinary Assistant students. They practiced bathing the JTAC dogs and cats, performing nail trims, and learned how to thoroughly clean cat and dog ears. While there, they also helped by giving the dogs extra walks. Director Whitney McGill has been working on creating and updating Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and created a training checklist for animal safety and handling. On Sunday, March 24th the Director had a training day with all the part time weekend kennel technicians to go over the new SOPs and to get everyone checked off on animal safety and handling. The full-time weekday staff will go through this same training in the upcoming weeks as Becky and Director McGill perform annual employee reviews.

Human Resources Director, Ericka Holmes

The Joliet Township Violence Prevention Program has a new director. They are now officially staffed and there are no openings. She is working with animal control on compensation, SOPs, and policies. HR Director Holmes is also looking to fill one position as a bilingual driver and one bilingual therapist.

Director of Transportation, Jacqueline Smith

The Transportation Department has met with the Spanish Community Center, Family and Friends and the Holsten Food Pantry to discuss a new partnership. They are still conducting interviews to give the department an overflow of drivers to complete trips. On March 1st they conducted their very first driver orientation, which consisted of the new hires completing paperwork for human resources, and the Transportation Department. PACE training was held on March 20 and March 21. They now have four part-time drivers actively working. Their next orientation will be on April 15 and are hoping to have three drivers attend. This will prepare them for the next Pace driver training that will be held May 1st and May 2nd. They currently have three executed MOUs and are waiting for three MOUs to be signed and returned. On March 20th they went live with the senior and disabled program. Director Smith met with Mr. Wallace and answered any questions while they provided him with flyers about the program. Seniors and disabled township residents are now able to call the Transportation number to schedule a ride for all medical appointments up to ten miles outside of township borders. They are also meeting with the in-house departments to see how the Transportation can assist with their services. A minor consent form was drafted to help transport clients in behavioral services and a meeting was held with the new Director of Violence Prevention to help understand how transportation services can be utilized by the clients. Trustee Arias asks for an estimate on how many riders they have gotten since the launch. Director Smith estimates thirty. Trustee Arias asks for any feedback they have heard so far. Director Smith says all the passengers really love the new service and are very excited about the transportation program.

Violence Prevention Director, Keshia Ellis

Keshia is the new director of the Violence Prevention Program (Peace Over Violence). They are now fully staffed and there are no more openings. They have created an MOU with Catholic Charity's Daybreak and are currently working on a second MOU. In the light of recent violent incidents in the area, Peace over Violence has canvassed the neighborhoods and local businesses. The POV outreach team will be doing a coffee and donut connection with community and businesses this week. Trustee Arias confirms with Director Ellis where the next community chat will be held at and Ms. Ellis confirms it will be at the Mitchell Center. Trustee Arias mentions how the community chats are great involvement for the residents and encourages many to attend.

Finance Director, Ivan Diaz

The pre-audit with AHS took time and the exit interview is scheduled tomorrow, Wednesday, April 10, 2024. AHS had a couple of follow-up requests for a few documents and Finance Director Diaz sent that information over to them as he now awaits a response. There is an annual supervisor report and tentative budget posted on the wall for the Annual Town Board Meeting. It is about eighty five percent of what will be in the final budget because Director Diaz is still working on getting more accurate numbers for Violence Prevention, and the PACE program. The appropriations compared to last year are slightly less. General Town appropriations are \$3,597,000. General Assistance appropriations are \$479,700. Senior fund appropriations are \$109,500. Animal Control appropriations are 1.2 million. Capital fund appropriations are 3 million. Violence Prevention appropriations are 1.2 million. The total appropriations are equal to 9.7 million compared to last year's number of 9.9 million. Trustee Slattery asks if a separate fund for Violence Prevention will be established. Finance Director Diaz states it will be reimbursement for about ninety percent of what was spent. Supervisor Contreras mentions that the grant used for Violence Prevention will be extended till the end of 2024.

Clerk, Alicia Morales

The bid hearings have been held to get two new JTAC vehicles, grass cutting services for Oakwood Cemetery and the Sugar Creek bridge replacement project. Award contracts will be going out via mail. Including letters for those who did not receive the bid. The Clerk's office has also been working on the Annual Town Meeting which will take place after this meeting at 6:15PM. Clerk Morales received a call about a set of houses who do not have water and will be passing the information along to the proper channels.

Supervisor, Angel Contreras

The behavioral health team is doing great work and is working with other entities. The Township has reached its space capacity which required having the offices rearranged to fit the new staff. The Supervisor thanks every department for their great work as he explains how he expects more agreements with other entities and organizations as the programs continue to progress in their work.

CASH RECEIPTS: Trustee Slattery motions to place the cash receipts into their proper accounts. Trustee Arias seconds. Motion carried.⁸

FUND EXPENDITURES:

General Town Fund for March 2024: \$805,721.37

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the expenditures and approve them for payment.
Trustee Edwards seconds. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.⁹

Animal Control Fund for March 2024: \$91,087.32

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the expenditures and approve them for payment.
Trustee Arias seconds. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.¹⁰

Road and Bridge Fund for March 2024: \$133,133.32

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the expenditures and approve them for payment.
Trustee Edwards seconds. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.¹¹

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

⁹ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

¹⁰ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

¹¹ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

General Assistance Fund for March 2024: \$32,552.47

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the expenditures and approve them for payment. Trustee Arias seconds. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.¹²

Senior Fund for March 2024: \$30,000.00

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the expenditures and approve them for payment. Trustee Edwards seconds. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.¹³

Capital Fund for March 2024: \$2,792.00

Trustee Slattery motioned to certify the expenditures and approve them for payment. Trustee Arias seconds. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.¹⁴

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Contreras asked Clerk Morales to make a special announcement. Clerk Morales thanks everyone for their support. Today, Wednesday, April 9, 2024, Clerk Morales is officially in remission. She describes the tough journey she has gone through and the public audience applauds in support. Supervisor Contreras then proceeds to ask for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Arias motions. Trustee Slattery seconds. Motion Carried.¹⁵

The meeting adjourned at 5:44PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Alicia Morales
Town Clerk

¹² Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

¹³ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

¹⁴ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).

¹⁵ Roll call vote: Ayes (4). Trustees Arias, Edwards, Slattery and Supervisor Contreras. Nays (0).