



ORDINANCE NO. 377-2022

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF WILL)

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING ADVISORY COMMITTEES FOR JOLIET TOWNSHIP

WHEREAS, Joliet Township, Will County, State of Illinois (the "Township") is a duly organized and existing township and a unit of local government organized under the laws of the State of Illinois and is operating under the provisions of the Illinois Township Code, 60 ILCS 1/1-1, *et. seq.*, and all laws amendatory thereto; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor and the Township Board of Trustees are committed to ensuring the effective administration of government and the responsible management of taxpayer money; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor and the Township Board of Trustees have determined that, in order to assist with the orderly and efficient conduct of Township business and to increase transparency and accountability, the Township should establish several committees dedicated to advising the Township as to certain core matters; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor and the Township Board of Trustees have determined it to be in the best interests of the Township to establish advisory committees for: (i) Youth Services; (ii) Senior Services; (iii) Economic Development; (iv) Public Health; (v) Town Beautification; and (vi) Township Outreach and Events.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Joliet Township, Will County, Illinois, as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals and findings are found to be true and correct and are incorporated herein and made a part hereof, as if fully set forth in their entirety.

Section 2. Establishment of Township Advisory Committees. The following Township Advisory Committees are hereby established and are charged with the following:

A. Youth Services Committee

The Youth Services Committee supports programs and services that address youth through the implementation of prevention techniques, crisis intervention, restorative justice, therapeutic involvement, case management and coordination of wraparound services with other community partners and agencies. Youth Services also advocates for programs and services which enhance the social/emotional development of youth and their families. Youth Services is committed to promoting positive opportunities for youth and families and to helping the youth and their families access needed services.

B. Senior Services Committee

The Senior Services Committee is a consortium of township residents and community stake holders, with a shared goal of improving the quality of life for older adults.

- Better the quality of life for older adults in the township by providing necessary information and services
- Help evaluate the effectiveness of Township sponsored programs, make recommendations for revisions, or establish new programs as needed
- Help generate public awareness of Township-sponsored senior services
- Advise/assist the Senior Services Coordinator with programs as needed
- Monitor and advocate for the current and pending legislation related to Senior Services.
- Advise the Coordinator about comments, complaints, suggestions, requests and input they receive from residents/agencies in the Township

C. Economic Development Committee

The Economic Development Committee shall act in an advisory capacity to the Township on matters of economic development, including but not limited to the following:

- To review and make recommendations concerning all development proposals, provided that nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the sponsor of a rejected proposal from petitioning the Township directly;
- To use resource persons for assistance and advice on specific proposals for consideration by the Committee; and
- To gather and disseminate appropriate information regarding the economic vitality of the Township.

D. Public Health Committee

The Public Health Committee shall identify the needs and advise the Supervisor and Township of the public health especially relating present physical, behavioral, and mental health needs of Joliet Township. This committee reviews grant proposals from agencies serving clients with mental illness or agencies providing intensive counseling type services and outreach meant to positively impact an individual or family's well-being, especially in crisis situations. Programs address issues

such as sexual abuse, family conflict, depression, substance abuse, and coping with cancer and other illnesses. The Public Health Committee is guided by three basic objectives:

- Reviewing and monitoring current available services and programs
- Informing residents of available services (including those not provided by the Township)
- Reviewing plans for meeting the future physical, behavioral, mental health and social service needs of Joliet Township

E. Town Beautification Committee

The Town Beautification Committee serves as an advisory body to the Township In developing projects involving beautification. The committee may plan regular clean up days, organize plantings at the township offices, advise on public art, and help design other projects to help beautify Joliet Township. The goal is to positively impact the beauty of the community and enhance cultural opportunities for the Township through plantings, gardens, enhancement of natural habitats, and encouragement of the arts through volunteer efforts.

F. Township Outreach and Events Committee

The objective of the Outreach and Events Committee is to locate target communities for various Township programs and services. Members of the committee will be instrumental in making informed recommendations for outreach and additional events by researching data as well as consulting other valuable, perhaps less conventional sources in order to identify which Township communities have significant numbers of citizens experiencing financial hardship, homelessness, and other needs that make those residents more vulnerable.

Section 3. Advisory Committee Authority. Each advisory committee has authority to perform work within the scope as defined in Section 2. All requests and communications made on behalf of an advisory committee shall come from the committee's chairperson, unless the chairperson designates otherwise. In discharging its responsibilities, each advisory committee, through its chairperson, shall have access to Township employees and relevant information it considers necessary to discharge its duties with reasonable notice and accommodation as to not interrupt Township operations. Each committee, through its chairperson, shall be entitled to reasonably request written explanations or reports from Township employees and elected officials, as the case may be, so long as the request falls within the scope of the committee's duties. Each committee shall also have access to records, data, and reports necessary to discharge its duties, but in no event shall any Committee member be permitted to receive or disclose any document or information that is confidential, personal, or, without approval by the Supervisor and Township Board of Trustees, information otherwise exempt under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 J LCS 140/1, *et seq.* Nothing in this Ordinance shall indemnify an individual member of an advisory committee from any action effectuating the illegal disclosure of confidential and/or personal information and, further, the Township shall not indemnify any committee member found to have improperly or illegally disclosed confidential information. If an advisory committee recommends the engagement of independent professional services, said request must first be considered and approved by Supervisor and Township Board of Trustees in order for such an engagement to take effect,

Section 4. Committee Membership. The Supervisor, with the advice and consent of the Township Board of Trustees, shall appoint members of each committee and the Supervisor shall designate a chair

to preside over each committee's meeting. The chair of each committee shall be responsible for establishing committee meeting schedules, ensuring compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1, *et seq.*, and shall be responsible for relaying information back and forth between the committee to the Supervisor and Township Board of Trustees. The Supervisor shall serve, *ex officio*, as a member of all committees as the Supervisor deems necessary and appropriate. Unless otherwise required by prior Ordinance or by the Illinois Township Code, each committee shall be composed of at least five (5) members, one (1) of whom must be an elected Township official. Other committee members may be appointed based on their experience and knowledge in the subject area covered by the committee's scope of duties and shall be required to comply with all regulations and laws governing Township elected officials. The Supervisor shall establish a public application process for community members to apply for membership on the various committees. No additional compensation shall be permitted for service on any Township committee.

Each committee member, other than the Supervisor, shall serve for a term of one-year and shall serve at the pleasure of the Supervisor and Township Board of Trustees. Any committee may request that the Supervisor and Township Board of Trustees remove a committee member, other than the Supervisor, from the committee after three (3) unexcused absences or otherwise, for cause.

Each committee shall organize and conduct an initial meeting within 90 days after the effective date of this Ordinance and, in all subsequent years, within 30 days of the appoint of committee members, at a date and time determined by the committee chair. At said initial meeting, each committee shall adopt a regular meeting schedule.

All committee members shall be subject to all applicable state and federal laws including, but not limited to, the Open Meetings Act, the Freedom of Information Act, the State Officials and Employees Ethics Act, 5 ILCS 430/1-1, *et seq.*, and any other relevant ordinance or policy adopted by the Township. A committee's request to the Supervisor and Township Board of Trustees to remove a committee member for cause may be based on conduct that includes, but shall not be limited to, a committee member's failure to comply with the applicable laws and Township policies.

Section 5. Restriction on Committee Actions. Each committee created herein shall have the duty and responsibility to investigate concerns arising out of their respective scope of activity, to promote the best interests of the Township, and to make recommendations as to policies, procedures, and actions for consideration by the Supervisor and Township Board of Trustees. All actions by any committee shall be advisory in nature. No committee may authorize expenditures, enter into any binding agreements or otherwise take final policy actions.

Section 6. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable, and should any provision of this Ordinance be determined to be in conflict with any law, statute, or regulation by a court of competent jurisdiction, said provision shall be excluded and deemed inoperative, unenforceable, and as though not provided for herein, but such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Ordinance that can be given effect without the invalid application or provision, and all other provisions shall remain unaffected, unimpaired, valid, and in full force and effect.

Section 7. Repealer. All ordinances, resolutions, rules and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby superseded and repealed.

Section 8. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon passage and approval by the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Joliet Township, Will County, State of Illinois due to the urgent nature of this matter.

PASSED this 12th day of APRIL, 2022



Alicia Morales, Township Clerk

APPROVED this 12th day of APRIL, 2022



Angel Contreras, Supervisor

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Those Voting For:

Those Voting Against:

Those Not Voting: