

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Joliet Township Joliet Township Special Board Meeting 175 W. Jefferson St., Joliet, IL 60432 Tuesday, June 24th, 2024 / 5:00 P.M.

The special town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at 5:00 P.M. was called to order by Supervisor Guerrero. The following official business was transacted:

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

TRUSTEES:

Quinn Adamowski

Present

Andrea Bibian Archie Gavin Present

Betty Washington

Present Present

SUPERVISOR:

Cesar Guerrero

Present

CLERK:

Kendra Landfair

Present

OTHER OFFICIALS:

Commissioner Vince Alessio

Present

Assessor James Brenczewski

Not Present

ALSO PRESENT:

Executive Assistant, Ana Campa Castillo Workfare Investigator, Jesse Stiff

Tech Support/Data Research Administrator, Alexis Tamayo

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Supervisor Guerrero opened up the floor for public comment. Supervisor Guerrero did mention that if there was anyone in the audience who would like to make a comment regarding the budget and appropriations for the general town or road district, they can do so during the public hearing.

Roy Smith thanked Supervisor Guerrero and Amy Sanchez about making him aware of the resolution and name change of the Forest Park Community Center to the Louise Ray Community Center. Roy asked the board to come up to the podium with him to speak. Roy shared that Louise Ray is his mother and thanked the Township board for the Resolution to rename the Forest Park Community Center to the Louise Ray Community Center.

Johnny Ray thanked the Township board for acknowledging his mother, Louise Ray, and for keeping her name going as a result of this name change.

Eric Mitchell thanked the Township board for considering to rename the Forest Park Community Center to the Louise Ray Community Center and expressed appreciation for everything that the Township is doing locally. Eric shared that his aunt and uncle are Ozzie & Peggy Mitchell and that he saw the transition that happened, with the Ozzie & Peggy Mitchell Center, that the Township acquired and the great work that is being done locally with the center. Eric expressed that he is sure that the same great work occurs with the Forest Park Community Center.

Betty Gavin discussed her history, serving as a director for over thirteen years, with the Forest Park Community Center. Betty discussed her experience with Louise Ray, who Louise Ray was as a person, and the work that Louise Ray did

in the community. Betty thanked the Township board for recognizing Louise Ray. Betty also pledged that their board will stand in partnership with the Township to continue Louise Ray's legacy.

Stanley Moffett thanked the Township board and everyone who showed up to the meeting to support them. Stanley discussed his experience with Louise Ray and that her legacy will live on once the Resolution is adopted. Stanley reiterated what Betty Gavin stated about the commitment to partner with the Township to continue to help the community and to keep things moving forward.

Natadias Ervins started off with sharing that Louise Ray was his godmom. Natadias discussed the center, his experience with Louise Ray, who she was as a person and her legacy. Natadias thanked the Township board.

Amy Sanchez read an article published on September 23, 1997 from the Chicago Tribune about The Hill neighborhood in Joliet, the violence in the neighborhood, the Forest Park Community Center and Louise Ray. Amy gave Supervisor Guerrero an Illinois Senate Resolution that was given to Lousie Ray's family at the time of her passing. Amy urged the passing of Resolution 2025-03 to keep Louise Ray's legacy and mission not just alive but the history and original purpose & mission of all of the centers that the Township has acquired.

Clerk read a public comment that was received via email from Garland Mays, which stated: On behalf of Garland Mays, past President of the Forest Park Community for over a decade, I proudly support renaming the Forest Park Center to the Louise Ray Center. "Momma Ray" was a tireless advocate, a mentor, and a guiding light to so many in our neighborhood. Her presence was felt in every block, every household, and every community gathering. She dedicated her life to creating opportunities, providing support, and building unity among residents, never asking for recognition—only results. Her love for this community was unmatched, and her impact is woven into the very fabric of Forest Park. Renaming the center in her honor would be more than a tribute; it would be a permanent reminder of what one person's love and commitment can do for an entire community. The Louise Ray Center would stand not only as a building but as a symbol of hope, resilience, and the power of community care. For current and future generations, her name on that building would inspire continued service and remind us all of the responsibility we have to one another. It is only right that this space, which has long served the people of Forest Park, now carry the name of the woman who served them most, until the end of time. Sincerely, Garland L. Mays

PUBLIC HEARING:

- Budget & Appropriation Township Ordinance No. 409-2025
- Budget & Appropriation Road District Ordinance No. 2025-04 (RD)

Supervisor Guerrero called for a motion to enter into the Public Hearing for the FY 2025-2026 Budget and Appropriations Township Ordinance No. 409-2025. Motion made by Trustee Gavin. Seconded by Trustee Adamowski. The Public Hearing for the General Town began on 5:21PM and was completed on 5:22PM.

Supervisor Guerrero called for a motion to enter into the Public Hearing for FY 2025-2026 Budget and Appropriations Road District Ordinance No. 2025-04 (RD). Motion made by Trustee Gavin. Seconded by Trustee Bibian. The Public Hearing for the Road District began on 5:23PM and was completed on 5:26PM, at which time the Special Meeting was called back to order.

NEW BUSINESS:

ADOPT/General Town FY 2025/26 Budget Ordinance No. 409-2025

Supervisor Guerrero asks for a motion to adopt the General Town FY 2025/26 Budget Ordinance No. 409-2025. Trustee Washington motions. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. Supervisor Guerrero shared notes from the Finance Director

regarding the budget. Trustee Adamowski asked about the process to getting to 3% for raises and Supervisor Guerrero answered his question. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.¹

ADOPT/Road District FY 2025/26 Budget Ordinance No. 2025-04 (RD)

Supervisor Guerrero asks for a motion to adopt the Road District FY 2025/26 Budget Ordinance No. 2025-04 (RD). Trustee Gavin motions. Seconded by Trustee Washington. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.²

ADOPT/Rules and Regulations for FOIA Requests and Designating FOIA Officers for the Joliet Township Assessor Office, Ordinance No. 411-2025

Supervisor Guerrero asks for a motion to adopt Rules and Regulations for FOIA Requests and Designating FOIA Officers for the Joliet Township Assessor Office Ordinance 411-2025. Trustee Washington motions. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.³

ADOPT/Resolution No. 2025-03 To Rename Forest Park Community Center to Louise Ray Community Center

Supervisor Guerrero asks for a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-03 to rename the Forest Park Community Center to the Louise Ray Community Center. Trustee Bibian motions. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. Trustees shared their experiences with Louise Ray. A roll call was taken. Motion carried.⁴ Supervisor Guerrero shared an upcoming event, a Fresh Produce Pop-Up, that will take place on Monday, June 30th at the center in conjunction with the Will County Executive's office. Flyers for the event were passed around to everyone in attendance at the meeting. Betty Gavin asked Supervisor Guerrero if there were also flyers in Spanish and Supervisor Guerrero answered her question. Supervisor Guerrero gave time to the Trustees to discuss any community events or share any additional remarks before the meeting adjourned. Trustee Adamowski thanked Supervisor Guerrero and the Township staff for getting everything together in such a short period of time. Supervisor Guerrero also thanked the Township staff for making all of this possible.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Guerrero asks for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Washington motions. Trustee Gavin seconds. A voice vote was taken and the ayes⁵ prevailed to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendra Landfair
Town Clerk

¹ Roll call vote: Ayes (5). Trustees Washington, Gavin, Adamowski, Bibian and Supervisor Guerrero. Nays (0).

² Roll call vote: Ayes (5). Trustees Gavin, Washington, Adamowski, Bibian and Supervisor Guerrero. Nays (0).

³ Roll call vote: Ayes (5). Trustees Washington, Gavin, Adamowski, Bibian and Supervisor Guerrero. Nays (0).

⁴ Roll call vote: Ayes (5). Trustees Bibian, Gavin, Adamowski, Washington and Supervisor Guerrero. Nays (0).

⁵ Voice vote: Ayes (5). Trustees Adamowski, Bibian. Gavin, Washington and Supervisor Guerrero. Nays (0).