



The regular town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at 5:00 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	Present
	Karl Ferrell	Absent
	Suzanna Ibarra	Present
	Raymond F. Slattery	Present
SUPERVISOR:	Angel Contreras	Present
CLERK:	Alicia Morales	Present
OTHER OFFICIALS:	Hwy Commissioner Vince Alessio	Present

ALSO PRESENT: Township Attorney Brian Wellner, Township Senior Liaison Jeff Wallace, and Township Deputy Clerk Rachel Ventura, Township Finance Director Ivan Diaz, and General Assistance Director Patricia Veneziano.

Approval of the Minutes:

Special Town Minutes/July 27, 2021: Trustee Slattery moved to approve the minutes of the July 27th, 2021 Special Town Board Meeting, Seconded by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken.¹

Public Hearing Minutes/July 27, 2021: Trustee Escutia moved to approve the minutes of the July 27th, 2021 Proposed Budget Amendment, Seconded by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken.²

Public Hearing Minutes/July 27, 2021: Trustee Suzanna moved to approve the minutes of the July 27th, 2021 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance (RD), Seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call vote was taken.³

Public Comment: None

New Business:

Approve/Grant in the amount of \$7,500 to Joliet Township Infant Childcare Center – Supervisor Contreras shared the memo and ask from childhood services. He described some of the services they offer their students and families. Asked for \$15,000 for age appropriate equipment like toddlers. It is outdated or not age appropriate equipment. Slattery motioned to approve a

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

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

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

grant for \$7,500 to Joliet Township Infant Childcare Center, Seconded by Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken.⁴

Approve/Grant in the amount of \$1,500 to Including You, Inc. – Supervisor Contreras explained the ask letter didn't ask for a specific amount but that they are a 501(c)3 and distribute resources to organization in Joliet Township like Big Brother Big Sister, National Hookup of Black Women, Boys and Girls Club, and Food Pantries. These funds are for their event Family Fun Fest.

Reports:

Mr. Jeff Wallace, Joliet Township Senior Liaison: He had a meeting at 1pm last Tuesday with Supervisor Contreras to go over the senior grants. The clerk and deputy clerk were also in attendance. The decision was made to continue the funding and in the future increase a few of the line items for some groups. Anna mailed out the applications. Moose seniors had a picnic with about 40 in attendance on Aug 8th and Mr. Wallace recapped the event. He then listed the upcoming meetings including the senior lunch on Thursday Aug 12th at St Joes, 2nd Baptist on Aug 14th, and the St Joes Seniors on Aug 18th at noon, and the SOAR, retired steelworkers on Aug 19th at noon at silver spoons. One group called to ask about a cover page but Mr. Wallace said to send in the application without it.

General Assistance Director Patricia Venziano:

Pat attended the Education/Support services committee meeting for the Continuum of Care. The COC has recently received 61 housing choice vouchers from the Joliet Housing Authority. The vouchers were awarded to people who were in permanent supportive housing, large households in shelters and clients in rapid rehousing. This allowed for 26 new families to move into permanent supportive housing slots that were left vacant and for a total of 96 families to move forward to housing stability. The Will county regional office of education is planning their Education symposium event in October that provides McKinney Vento training. After the training there will be a resource fair for educators and I will be presenting on the types of services available at a Township level of government for families in need.

Sue and Pat attended an online training with Social Security to learn more about the application process for applying for SSI. They were provided with the necessary forms and points of contact should we take any applications. They did ask when the Social Security offices were going to reopen and they do not have a date set for reopening yet. They will also be meeting virtually with staff from the Joliet office to discuss further the application process and reasons for denials and appeals.

Sue and Pat attended a regional GAP meeting, which is a meeting of General Assistance caseworkers. The highlighted speaker was Bob Kalnicky from Community Service Council of Northern Will County. Bob presented on the programs that they offer which have primarily revolve around various forms of counseling which they charge for on a sliding scale basis. In addition to counseling services, they also offer both Mortgage counseling services as well as some rental assistance.

Sue & Jesse attended outreach events on 7/31 at 2nd Baptist Church for a Community Fair with an attendance of approximately 150 people and on 8/7 they attended the back to school event at

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Salvation Army that had an attendance of approximately 200 people. At both events, they provided information on our services and passed out township jump ropes. Sue also made contact with a doctor that receives medical equipment he does not use and will be donating to the township 12 rolator walkers.

Pat attended a back to school fair on 8/7 at All Nations Church with approximately 50 people. Attendees were provided with information on township programs and township jump ropes. The township is invited to come back to All Nations for a senior resource fair that they are planning for October.

Pat met with Joe O'Connor the homeless services director at WCCCC as well as the executive director Kris White and CSSBG director Belithia Johnson to discuss the creation of a 4th week program. The program is designed to aid families that are living in motels/hotels in Joliet Township with 1 week of rent and to guide them towards permanent sustainable housing. The files will be processed at our office and the funds distributed to approve clients by WCCCC acting as the bank for our initial deposit of \$5,000.00. While our funds will cover 1 week of rent for up to 3 months for eligible clients WCCCC will provide homeless services, Security Deposit and first months' rent to the client upon the finding a suitable rental property.

Contreras commented on the value of the housing program.

Highway Commissioner Alessio: reported on getting the emergency job done this week on Redbud & 53 for the culver that has a sinkhole, which is a main bus route. They used MFT funds for that. Sept 10th is a bid letting for a project on Fairbanks by Cass, 500 feet going down a hill, the water flows down so adding a gutter and proper drainage. They are still waiting on the two new trucks. The manufacture said it could be awhile, they are hoping September but need them before the plow season. The RD is deciding on what to do for salt this year and will report on that at the next meeting. He discussed the bid letting in the future and his conversation with the clerk for additional criteria that is optional to fill out regarding local hiring and equity hiring processes. He asked the board their desire. Supervisor suggested they would get with Brian to come up with a policy and have the trustees review and provide feedback for the next board meeting.

Animal Control Assistant Director Becky Gomez: Very busy this last month. Discussed the seizure of an English bulldog in crest hill; charges have been filed by the State's Attorney. They had a lot of strays come in which means a lot of adoptions going out. She discussed a success story of a 19 yr old daughter with MS adopting a therapy dog with her mom and the follow up call was very positive. Kathy the vet tech had helped her adopt a female pit bull who has turned out to be a good fit. They got the new van but the lights won't be installed for about four weeks. Still having issues with the old transits with mainly AC. Rendell's is working on one now and has been for about a month. She recently met with Brian to go over the old IGAs to revamp them to 2021. A lot of volunteers who have been there before COVID have been back and very excited to be working with the animals again. They hired two new weekend kennel people. Evaluation on Animal Control Officers and happening now, 2 out of 3 are complete. She will finish those and start working on the evaluations for the Techs and others next.

Highway Commissioner Alessio: forgot to mention the big road project will begin next Tuesday and it should take 3-4 working weeks to finish.

Clerk Alicia Morales: reported that they filed the Joliet Township Budget with the County Clerk, also filed the Road District Budget with the County. She filed the oath for the deputy clerk with the county as well. Currently, the clerk's office is coordinating with the HWY Commissioner for the letting date for the 2021-02 Fairbanks road improvement project. The legal notice was posted Aug 6th for the newspaper. We hired the deputy clerk, Rachel Ventura. She is being trained and will head up the letting in September. Ibarra asked if the deputy clerk took her oath. Morales said she was sworn in on the 3rd with witnesses Ana Campa Castillo, Angel Contreras, and Sue Bustin.

Supervisor Angel Contreras: reported that all the equipment for the phones have been ordered. NJA is coordinating with every department and the project will take a couple of weeks. There should be an 80% decrease in phone bill so the equipment will pay for itself from the phone line savings. All the Trustees have their laptops. He ordered scanners to digitize everything. There will be more upgrades to technology as things comes up. He had two conversations with the county about the ARPA funds. There are different tiers. He asked if they upgrade the technology can the funds be applied retro-actively? The discussed other infrastructure and coordination with the road district. The county said the plan for the ARPA funds have not been set yet. He said he would advocate for the residents to receive some of these once in a lifetime dollars. He wants everyone talking to the county and staying involved. Ivan Diaz started on Monday as the Financial Director.

Receipts: Trustee Slattery motioned to place the cash receipts in the proper accounts. Motion seconded by Trustee Ibarra. A roll call vote was taken.⁵

Expenditures: The Supervisor presented the following invoices for Town Board approval for the Period ending July 27th, 2021

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

FUND EXPENDITURES

General Town \$60,784.81
Motion: Trustee Slattery
Second: Trustee Ibarra
Roll Call⁶

Capital Fund No bills presented for this fund.

General Assistance \$9,068.67
Motion: Trustee Slattery
Second: Trustee Ibarra
Roll Call⁷

Road and Bridge \$49,080.73
Motion: Trustee Slattery
Second: Trustee Ibarra
Roll Call⁸

Animal Control \$28,621.97
Motion: Trustee Slattery
Second: Trustee Escutia
Roll Call⁹

Before the vote, Trustee Slattery mentioned the Rendell's amount in \$569.29 is over stated by the sales tax amount of \$21. He talked to Ivan about it and they will get a credit memo from Rendell's.

Senior Fund No bills presented for this fund

Closed Session: NONE

Adjournment: Trustee Ibarra moved to adjourn the town board meeting to Tuesday, September 14th, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Escutia. A roll call vote was taken¹⁰. The Aug 10th, 2021 meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Morales, Town Clerk



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