



The regular town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, Tuesday, November 24, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. was called to order by Supervisor Daniel L. Vera who announced that this meeting was being held via telephone conference due to Governor Pritzker’s prior orders as well as recent Executive Order No. 2020-73 – Tier 3 Mitigation.

The following official business was transacted:

The Clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The Clerk called the roll as follows:

TRUSTEES:	Raymond F. Slattery	Present
	Archie Gavin	Present
	Rosie Verdin	Present
	Brian Hertzmann	Present
SUPERVISOR:	Daniel L. Vera	Present
CLERK:	Julie A. Kinsella	Present
OTHER OFFICIALS:	Commissioner Michael Turnbull	Present
	Assessor James Brenzewski	Present

ALSO PRESENT: Township Attorney James Harvey, Township Finance Director Colleen Witt, and Pastor Tracy Jennings.

Approval of the Minutes:

Regular Town Minutes/November 10, 2020: Trustee Slattery moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2020 Town Board Meeting, and to waive the reading of these minutes inasmuch as copies had previously been delivered. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A roll call vote was taken.¹

Public Comment:

Tracey Jennings, pastor of Total Christian Life Ministries, 421 Patterson Road in Joliet noted that he had a great relationship with Supervisor Vera and the Township over the past 11 years. Jennings stated that their Men’s Club has kept the road and parkways

¹ Roll call vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0).

cleaned up on a weekly basis, weather permitting, and was here because he needed help with a serious safety problem. Pastor Jennings reported that for the fourth time in 90 days, a semi-truck has torn down the wires in the church's parking lot tonight. Pastor Jennings noted the placement of existing signs at Route 53 and Patterson Road as well as at Patterson Road and Brandon Road have "10-ton limit/local deliveries only". He stated that he has worked with the Sheriff's Department to increase patrols, but that he is asking for Township help to put additional signs for "No trucks/local deliveries only". With the Brandon Road Bridge closed, the only business on Brandon Road is Gallagher Asphalt, and they could use the access provided at the intersection of Laraway and Brandon Roads. Truck drivers see the bridge is out and the other overpass is too low for them to pass under, so they turn down Patterson Road and use the church parking lot to turn around. The truck drivers do not see the lower hanging electrical wires, so they get ripped right off the building or pole, creating a dangerous situation. Com-Ed and the Sheriff's department is out at the church right now, and something has to be done immediately. Pastor Jennings stated that there is no retail, no commercial, and no industrial business and the area is zoned R-3 so no trucks should be on Patterson Road unless for deliveries. Jennings requested that "No trucks/local deliveries only" signs be posted at the following intersections: Route 53 and Patterson Road, Patterson Road and Brandon Road, and at Laraway Road and Brandon Road. He said that if the Highway Commissioner was on the line tonight, "Please, we need this done ASAP".

New Business:

Animal Control/New Hire: Supervisor Vera noted that the resume for Paula Bauman was in the board's folders and he and JTAC Director McGill had interviewed Ms. Bauman as well as other candidates. After posting online and on Facebook, 4 finalists were selected for working interviews. Ms. Bauman was determined to be the best fit. Trustee Verdin made a motion to approve the hiring of Paula Bauman for the part-time, 25-hours per week position at the starting pay rate of \$13.00 per hour at JTAC. Motion was seconded by Trustee Gavin. Roll call vote was taken.²

Adopt/Road District Levy – Ordinance No. 2020-04(RD): Trustee Slattery made a motion to approve the Road District Levy-Ordinance No. 2020-04(RD) which was seconded by Trustee Gavin. Trustee Slattery said that the tax rate for the Levy needed to be determined 20 days prior to adoption, so he asked Commissioner Turnbull if that was done 20 days prior to tonight's request for approval. Turnbull then stated that the information Julie (Clerk Kinsella) sent him said that this would not be approved until January. Clerk Kinsella spoke up stating that she and Mike had not discussed any dates in January in regards to the Levy. Turnbull recanted, and said he had made a mistake as he had confused it with the other ordinance he had for tonight.

² Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

Clerk Kinsella then asked Commissioner Turnbull when he actually determined his Levy. He replied that he started it in early November. He then said that he determined the Levy on the date he turned it into the clerk. The Clerk asked, "So the date you determined the Levy is the 13th then?" Commissioner Turnbull asserted that he had determined it on the date he turned it into Clerk Kinsella which was November 13, 2020. Trustee Slattery then asked if Turnbull had determined if the Levy was less than 105% of last year's Levy, and Trustee Gavin asked that the amount be double-checked to ensure that a Truth-in-Taxation Hearing or publication was not needed. Clerk Kinsella also noted that the last day to file the Levy was the last Tuesday in December, December 29, 2020. Turnbull had said that he had not gone over last year's levy percentage. As it was noted that as the Road District Levy percentage was not determined 20 days prior to tonight's meeting, action on the Road District Levy would have to be tabled until the next meeting. Trustee Slattery then made a motion to table the approval of the Road District Levy- Ordinance No. 2020-04(RD) until the next scheduled meeting on December 8, 2020. Trustee Gavin seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.³

Following the vote, Supervisor Vera declared that the Road District Levy-Ordinance No. 2020-04(RD) was tabled until the meeting on December 8, 2020.

Adopt/Ordinance No. 2020-05(RD) - Ordinance Establishing No Parking Signage on Haviland Drive, Joliet Township: Supervisor Vera asked Commissioner Turnbull if he wished to address the ordinance. Turnbull explained that area of Zurich and Route 53 and there was a problem with parking of semi-trailers and trucks due to the truck & semi repair shop located there. Turnbull said it was a safety hazard as people could not see around them to proceed safely and wanted to have a no parking sign on Haviland. Turnbull also stated that the County has told the repair shop owner that they could use Haviland Road as an access point to the adjacent lot which they had purchased even been informed from Will County Highway that a new exit would have to be built to access the lot from Route 53. Trustee Gavin concurred with the safety issues at that intersection. Turnbull also started to talk about road weight limits and fines. Finance Director Witt asked Commissioner Turnbull who would issue the tickets or fines in response to any no parking signage and who would receive the revenue from any fines. Turnbull stated that the Will County Sheriff would be issuing the tickets and receiving the fines. Turnbull said that if this passed, that he would talk to Jeff Ronaldson at Will County and would reach out to him the next day. He then continued about overweight truck issues. Finance Director Witt astutely noted that the ordinance had no language addressing any weight limits. Witt asked to be kept informed about who would receive the funds from any fines. Trustee Verdin made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-05(RD)-Ordinance Establishing No Parking Signage on Haviland Drive, Joliet Township. Trustee Gavin seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken.⁴

³ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

⁴ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

Reports:

Supervisor Vera: Supervisor Vera noted that he participated in the TOI Virtual Annual Educational Conference last Monday. He thanked those who helped with the food distribution sponsored by the Township and in conjunction with MAPP and the NI Food Bank at the November 23, 2020 food distribution at Laraway School. He confirmed that 238 families benefitted from this. He reported that the township has given out over 5,000 of the cloth masks within the last 30 days. Final grass-cutting was completed at the Township's three cemeteries, and they look good heading into winter. This morning, JTAC Director McGill reported that visitor parking signs were knocked over due to vehicle leaving the roadway that must have happened overnight. Supervisor Vera inspected the damage and picked up the debris. Other than that, day-to-day operations.

Town Clerk: Clerk Kinsella reported participating in the TOI Virtual Educational Conference Clerks Day and the usual day-to-day functions.

Highway Commissioner: Commissioner Turnbull reported day-to-day business has been quiet as late. The shop has been working on oil changes, checking brakes, replacing tires, getting plows and salt-spreading machinery onto the trucks, and placing man-hole shims in preparation for the winter months. Turnbull stated that he had completed the salt contract with the State of Illinois and estimated that he has between 750 and 800 tons of salt available. Turnbull also participated in the TOI Virtual Annual Educational Conference last Thursday.

Assessor Brenzewski: Assessor Brenzewski reported that things are going well in the office, and they are looking forward to working with a new computer program and hope to make that switch in January.

Attorney Harvey: Attorney Harvey reported routine day-to-day and advising staff and elected officials. He also stated that he did have a chance to check on some cemetery questions and will be in touch about those in the next week or so, including how owners of no-longer needed cemetery plots may possibly return them or sell them back to the cemetery as long as a policy is put into place.

Finance Director: Finance Director Witt reported that bank reconciliations were completed for October and are available in the office for review, financial statements were completed for October and were included in the board packets with the exception of the Highway Commissioner to whom she had sent his statement directly. She also stated that the IMRF report was filed for October, and she is working with One Digital for the upcoming enrollment for health insurance, and the usual day-to-day operations.

Receipts: Trustee Slattery made a motion to deposit all cash receipts into their proper accounts as presented for the period ending November 24, 2020. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. Finance Director Witt noted that the first item listed under General

Town on the receipt sheet that had no amount following it was scrivener error and should not have been on the receipt statement. Vera stated that the corrected receipt listing would be printed to include for the official record. A roll call vote was taken.⁵

Expenditures: The Supervisor presented the following invoices for Town Board approval for the period ending November 24, 2020:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
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General Town	\$54,042.19
Motion: Trustee Slattery	
Second: Trustee Verdin	
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0 ⁶	

Capital Fund- No bills presented for this fund.

General Assistance	\$9,800.80
Motion: Trustee Gavin	
Second: Trustee Slattery	
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0 ⁷	

Road and Bridge	\$90,958.41
Motion: Trustee Verdin	
Second: Trustee Slattery	
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0 ⁸	

Commissioner Turnbull asserted that he was in agreement with the bills presented for payment.

Animal Control	\$24,194.62
Motion: Trustee Gavin	
Second: Trustee Verdin	
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0 ⁹	

Senior Fund -No bills presented for this fund.

Closed Session: NONE

⁵ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

⁶ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

⁷ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

⁸ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

⁹ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann, and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)

Adjournment:

Trustee Hertzmann moved to adjourn the town board meeting to Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A roll call vote was taken.¹⁰

The November 24, 2020 meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Kinsella
Town Clerk

¹⁰ Roll Call Vote: Ayes (4) Trustees Slattery, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera. Nays (0)