



Minutes of a Meeting of the
Joliet Township Board
175 W. Jefferson St., Joliet, IL 60432
Tuesday, February 27, 2018

The regular town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. was called to order by Supervisor Daniel L. Vera. 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:	Beth Ann May	Present
OTHER OFFICIALS:	Commissioner James Maffeo	Present
	Assessor James Brenczewski	Present
ALSO PRESENT:	Accountant Colleen Witt	Present
	Director Sarah Gimbel	Present
	Attorney Franklin D. Burkey	Present
	Jeff Wallace, Senior Liaison	Present

Approval of the Minutes:

Regular Town/February 13, 2018: Trustee Slattery moved to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2018 Regular Town Board Meeting and to waive the reading of these minutes inasmuch as copies had previously been delivered. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. A voice vote was taken.¹

Public Comment:

None

¹ The motion carried

New Business:

Approve/Youth Grant, Greater Joliet Area YMCA

Supervisor Vera directed the Board to review the request for funding for the Greater Joliet Area YMCA, specifically the Smith and Central City locations, from President and CEO, James Watts. He reported Accountant Witt has confirmed there is funding available to provide a youth grant for the amount requested. The Supervisor indicated the programs provide service to kids who live within the township. This request asks for support for the Summer Camp program which we have supported for many years and it also asks for support of the Teen Achievers (service learning trip to Houston Texas) and for renovations in the Kid Zone space. Trustee Slattery moved to provide a youth grant to the Smith and Central City YMCA for \$68,000.00 for the Summer Camp, Teen Achievers and the Kid Zone programs. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (5), Nays (0)²

Discussion/East Joliet Lighting District

Supervisor Vera, Accountant Witt and Attorney Burkey provided the following update for the East Joliet Lighting District.

The Supervisor worked with Commonwealth Edison to close the existing account (effective 2/21) and open a new account under our name. We will pay the final bill to ComEd on the District Account and then a new bill will come to start our account. The final bill payment will come out of the Miscellaneous line item. Our next budget will reflect the revenue (from the District Levy which we will receive) and the expenditures for the District. The appropriation for the payment of these bills will come out of the General Town Fund and we may or may not levy additional funds to cover these costs. As we are taking over the District, we are allowed to increase our extension.

An inventory/location map of the street lights was received from the District. Attorney Burkey has been in contact with ComEd to secure a current inventory/location listing of the lights within the district.

The bank accounts at BMO Harris have been changed to reflect the Township and the Supervisor executed new signature cards. (BMO Harris was previously identified as an approved depository by the Township.)

There is no liability to the Township in taking over the lighting district. The lights are owned by ComEd and are maintained by them, our only responsibility is to pay the monthly bill. When residents have a problem with a light they will need to contact ComEd directly.

Personal Property Replacement Taxes were previously received by the District and arrangements have been made with the Illinois Department of Revenue to have the Township receive these funds.

² Roll Call Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera

The District will be completing the Annual Financial Report (AFR) with the State Comptroller, through December 31, 2017.

All of Districts permanent records were transferred to the Township at the meeting held with Mr. Smith of the District, and staff on February 21, 2018.

The Supervisor indicated Assistant State's Attorney Phil Mock has suggested that we take over the two additional lighting districts within the Township; however the Supervisor indicated we could consider that in the future but not at this time. Attorney Burkey added that he does not believe that the two Districts, East Moreland and Preston Heights, are having problems with finding members to serve on their Districts governing boards at this time. Which was the case with the East Joliet Lighting District.

Unfinished Business:


None

Reports:

Supervisor: Reported the grant funds were issued to Hospice for the Pet program and Morning Star Mission for the Women and Children shelter programs. He reported the work on the stone wall at Mound Cemetery continues and should be completed by the end of March. Photos of the work in progress were reviewed. The fencing, cage work and gate for the back of the building ramp area will be completed prior to the end of March. The Senior Citizen Association will meet on Thursday, March 8, 2017 at 12:30 and on May 10, the board is invited to attend. The air ducts were cleaned at Animal Control on Sunday, February 25, 2018. It took longer than anticipated and additional cleaning is needed on the tops of the ducts and some of the ledges. The Supervisor approved the additional cleaning and the additional charges associated with the amount of time it took to clean them. The company indicated they appeared to not have been cleaned in a long time and recommended that they are cleaned annually. The Township building ducts will also be cleaned over the March 10-11 weekend.

Clerk: Reported she continues to work on the records destruction project and with Accountant Witt and Attorney Burkey on the East Joliet Lighting District. She also continues to work with Attorney Burkey and Commissioner Maffeo on the vacate road issue for resident Mr. Perry. She attended a free training session on Wednesday, February 21, sponsored by the Foundation for Fair Contracting. A copy of the inventory list of vehicles for the Road District has been provided to the Board as requested.

Highway Commissioner: Distributed an additional equipment inventory report for the Board to reference. Reported on the Mr. Perry and vacate road issue. He indicated he had obtained a map and a copy of the original plat. He said the person he spoke with at the County said Mr. Perry could use emanate domain to take over the property in question. Attorney Burkey replied this might be a good idea and he asked the Clerk to

 Wait until he had time to review that option before she spoke with Mr. Perry. The Commissioner reported his staff continues to patch potholes and work on truck repairs. He reported an incident with a heater which hangs from the ceiling of the shop garage. The brackets holding the heater broke and the heater was hanging by the gas pipe line. He immediately called Perella who came out and fixed the bracket. In next year's budget he will be requesting funds to inspect all of the heaters and replace the brackets where necessary. The remainder of the salt has been ordered to complete the contract for purchase for the road salt allocation for this year. He has retained the services of Homer Tree Service to take care of 3 trees to be removed. The usual vendor, Budds Tree Service, couldn't do the work.

The Commissioner distributed a report of his planned road work for 2018. The list was separated by 2 sections, the first being the greatest priority for this year. The second section is proposed for next fiscal year. The Commissioner also indicated that he has spoken with the City of Joliet about streets where there is joint jurisdiction. He will be providing them a list of those streets to see if they can accommodate the repairs this year.

The Commissioner reviewed the list of the proposed projects, indicating they each fall within 4 categories: 1) 95,000 min 2" overlay ditch to ditch; 2) \$175,000 isolated patching and then 2" overlay; 3) \$250,000 heavy patch and 4) \$130,000 curb to curb with 2" overlay. The list only contains sections to be repaired, none of them are mile long sections. For this fiscal year and next the total repairs are approximately 4 miles of road. The Commissioner encouraged the Board members to recommend roads to him for consideration.

The list also contained the drainage projects for 2018. Some of these proposed projects require engineering; some will be completed by Road District staff; and others will need to go to bid next year.

He announced that he will be engaging the services of the Oxcart Company to process and accept payments for overweight truck permits. He reported that 123 permits were issued last year. The process for Oxcart is the companies access our permits through their website and they process the request and figure out the cost of the permit; the request is sent to us for approval; once approved the company pays in advance for the permit; and the permit is then issued. The cost for the process is the responsibility of the Company which pays this over and above what the permit costs.

Other than that, just the day to day operations of his office.

Assessor: Reported they have been able to continue with their measuring of properties now that the weather has warmed up. They are also working on the review of sales over the last 2 years. He expressed his concern regarding properties which have been purchased at a very low price and have been completely renovated, on the inside of the

homes, without permits. This creates a problem for the sales ration because of the low purchase price and the resale so high without the Assessor being aware that improvements were made. They are working very hard to track and assess the proper amounts, especially since the 5-6 years of reduced sales prices. He is still in the process of reviewing new software. Trustee Verdin asked if he had an estimate of the number of properties purchased low and improved to sell high and the Assessor replied that it's hard to say because they don't pull permits but he believes it to be very high.

Attorney: Attorney Burkey reported he has nothing further to report other than that already provided.

Accountant: Accountant Witt reported the monthly financial reports, ending January 31, 2018, have been completed and distributed to the Board. The financial documents and payroll were prepared for the annual TOIRMA reports. She continues to work on the East Joliet Lighting District project. She has been meeting with Attorney Burkey on the current Township issues, as discussed this evening. She and the Supervisor have been meeting to discuss the year end plan and they will be scheduling meetings with the various departments/officials to discuss their budgetary needs for next year. Other than that, just the day to day operations of her office.

Animal Control Center: Director Gimbel confirmed the Science Diet contract has been executed and she has placed the first order. The 100 spots for the free spay/neuter, provided by the PetCo. Grant, have all been filled. She changed the radio commercials, leaving out the register for a free spay/neuter and they are now general information on the Center. She attended the City of Joliet Council Meeting last week and provided a report on the vicious and dangerous dogs. She was in court today on one of the cases. She commented that the air circulation at the Center has been improved since the ducts have been cleaned. Other than that, just the day to day operations of the Center.

Senior Report: Senior Liaison, Jeff Wallace, reported on the club meetings he has attended and upcoming meetings. Some of which the Board is invited to attend. He obtains copies of the monthly Will County Senior Services newsletter which he takes to the various clubs. The Senior Services requested a copy of the clubs which we support and he has provided them with the club listing. Every club expresses their appreciation of the grants they receive. An American flag was given to him to present to the Adlai Stevenson Club.

Receipts: Trustee Slattery moved to deposit all funds into their proper accounts as presented for the period ending February 27, 2018. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. A voice vote was taken.³

Expenditures: The Supervisor presented the following invoices for Town Board approval for the period ending February 27, 2018:

³ The motion carried

FUND

EXPENDITURES

General Town \$65,980.46

Motion: Trustee Gavin
Second: Trustee Slattery
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0⁴

General Assistance \$12,236.44

Motion: Trustee Slattery
Second: Trustee Gavin
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0⁵

Road and Bridge \$87,360.60

Motion: Trustee Verdin
Second: Trustee Hertzmann
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0⁶

Supervisor Vera questioned the number of hours, each staff person worked during a recent snow storm. He expressed concern of the safety of the staff working 8 hours of regular time and then 16 hours of overtime. The Supervisor asked if there was a policy on how many hours a person can work without a break in time and the Commissioner said no he did not have a policy. The Supervisor asked why a “snowbird” (temporary snow removal staff) wasn’t used and the Commissioner replied that he didn’t currently have a snowbird that was property trained. The Commissioner has concerns when a temporary person is hired and they aren’t experienced with streets which have ditches and no curbs. Attorney Burkey commented this does appear to be an extreme load to place on staff. The Commissioner indicated they were able to take breaks to eat, and cots were provided for them to rest as needed.

Animal Control \$41,613.03

Motion: Trustee Verdin
Second: Trustee Gavin
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0⁷

Senior Fund \$300.00

Motion: Trustee Slattery
Second: Trustee Verdin
Roll Call: Ayes 5, Nays 0⁸

Trustee Slattery commented this is for the St. Ray’s Senior Group who had previously submitted requests for \$1600 but the board agreed to only pay for the Holiday entertainment.

⁴ Roll Call Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera

⁵ Roll Call Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera

⁶ Roll Call Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera

⁷ Roll Call Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera

⁸ Roll Call Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera

Certifications for all funds were passed unanimously.

Closed Session:

Supervisor Vera moved to recess the Regular Town Board meeting to enter into Closed Session for the purposes of discussion pending litigation. Seconded by Trustee Slattery. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (5), Nays (0)⁹ Accountant Witt and Commissioner Maffeo participated in the closed session.

The Regular Town Board meeting recessed at 6:30 p.m. and was called back to order at 7:08 p.m.

Trustee Slattery moved to authorize Township Attorney Franklin Burkey to enter into an agreed settlement, on behalf of the Township, for tax objection cases 2016TX0302 and 2017TX0286. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (5), Nays (0)¹⁰

Adjournment:

Trustee Hertzmann moved to adjourn the town board meeting to March 13, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Gavin. A voice vote was taken.¹¹ The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Beth Ann May
Clerk

⁹ Roll Call Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera

¹⁰ Roll Call Ayes (5) Trustees Slattery, Gavin, Verdin, Hertzmann and Supervisor Vera

¹¹ The motion carried