



Minutes of a Meeting of the  
Joliet Township Board  
175 W. Jefferson St., Joliet, IL 60432  
Tuesday, May 23, 2017

The regular town board meeting, being held at 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township government offices, on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, 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:	Burke J. Schuster	Present
	Rosie Verdin	Present
SUPERVISOR:	Daniel L. Vera	Present
CLERK:	Beth Ann May	Present
OTHER OFFICIALS:	Commissioner James Maffeo	Present
	Assessor James Brenzewski	Present
ALSO PRESENT:	Accountant Colleen Witt	Present
	Director Sarah Gimbel	Present
	Attorney Franklin D. Burkey	Present

Trustees Slattery and Gavin were absent due to previously scheduled vacation.

### **Approval of the Minutes:**

Regular Town/Minutes of May 9, 2017: Trustee Schuster moved to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2017 Regular Town Board Meeting and to waive the reading of these minutes inasmuch as copies had previously been delivered. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A voice vote was taken.<sup>1</sup>

Public Hearing Township Budget/Minutes of April 25, 2017: Trustee Schuster moved to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2017 Public Hearing Township Budget 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. Ayes (3), Nays (0)<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The motion carried

<sup>2</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

Public Hearing Road District Budget/Minutes of April 25, 2017: Trustee Verdin moved to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2017 Public Hearing Road District Budget and to waive the reading of these minutes inasmuch as copies had previously been delivered. Seconded by Trustee Schuster. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (3), Nays (0)<sup>3</sup>

### **Public Comment:**

Supervisor Vera welcomed the Students from Plainfield South and North in attendance for their government class.

### **New Business:**

#### Approval/New Hire Animal Control

Director Gimbel indicated she has three individuals whom she is recommending for consideration: 1) Shaun Ebner, permanent full time Animal Control Officer, \$16.48/hour, start date of June 5; 2) Hannah Militello, part time rotating weekend coverage, \$11.00/hour, start date of May 27; and 3) Amber Dunwoodie, part time administrative position, \$11.00/hour, start date of May 30 and Ms. Dunwoodie had previously worked with us as a student.

Trustee Schuster moved to approve the hiring of Shaun Ebner, Animal Control Officer, Hannah Militello, part time rotating weekend coverage, and Amber Dunwoodie, part time administrative position, all at the starting pay range and start date as recommended by Director Gimbel. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (3), Nays (0)<sup>4</sup>

#### Approval/Retainer for Franklin Burkey, Township Attorney

The retainer agreement was reviewed. Supervisor Vera moved to approve the retainer agreement and appoint Franklin Burkey as the Township Attorney, at \$30,000/year, per the agreement. Seconded by Trustee Schuster. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (3), Nays (0)<sup>5</sup>

#### Approval/Retainer for Robert Wisniewski, Road District Attorney

The retainer agreement was reviewed. Supervisor Vera moved to approve the retainer agreement for Robert Wisniewski to serve as the Road District Attorney, at \$15,000/year per the agreement. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (3), Nays (0)<sup>6</sup>

#### Approval/Consultant Agreement for Jeffrey Wallace, Senior Liaison

The 1 year agreement was reviewed. Supervisor Vera moved to approve the one year, consultant agreement for Jeff Wallace to serve as the Senior Liaison at \$12,000/year per the agreement. Seconded by Trustee Schuster. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (3), Nays (0)<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

<sup>4</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

<sup>5</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

<sup>6</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

<sup>7</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

Approval/Ordinance No. 2017-03 (RD) Establishing No Parking Signage, Siegmund St.  
Attorney Burkey spoke on the proposed Ordinance. He and Commissioner Maffeo reviewed the issue of residents parking in the grass area causing damage to the parkway and the drainage. Commissioner Maffeo commented once this is approved, he will have to take this to the County Engineer for approval, purchase and post the signs. A copy of the Ordinance will be provided to the Sheriff's Department, they will be responsible to enforce and the residents on that street will be instructed to call the Sheriff when there is a problem. Trustee Schuster moved to approve Ordinance No. 2017-03 (RD), Establishing No Parking Signage on Siegmund Street. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (3), Nays (0)<sup>8</sup>

Approval/Youth Grant – YMCA/Central City & Smith Family

The Central City YMCA is requesting a youth grant of \$25,000 for summer camp. The Supervisor indicated this is the same as last year, we budgeted \$100,000 in the youth line item this year so funds are available. Trustee Schuster moved to approve the youth grant for the Central City YMCA summer camp. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (3), Nays (0)<sup>9</sup>

Approval/July 4 Event Sponsorship

The request from the Joliet 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee was reviewed. The Supervisor indicated in the past we have sponsored this event at the \$500/level. Trustee Verdin moved to approve a \$500/level sponsorship for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks. Seconded by Trustee Schuster. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes (3), Nays (0)<sup>10</sup>

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**Reports:**

Supervisor:

The Supervisor reported, Director Malone has provided you with copies of the General Assistance reports. He attended the Bluestem Earth Festival on Saturday, which we sponsored, adding it was a very nice event and well attended. He was recently invited, by County Executive Walsh, to attend a meeting at the home of a family that lives on Brandon and Patterson Roads. This is the home, which last year and again this year, was hit by car. The Commissioner and the County Engineer were also present. Commissioner Maffeo will be looking at options to correct the problem. The Supervisor asked the Commissioner if he knew of a program to "Bring Back the Monarch Butterfly". Apparently it has been recommended that the ditches and roadways only be mowed so far back to help preserve the milk weed plant which the butterflies eat. The Commissioner was not aware but the Supervisor suggested we join. The Supervisor welcomed new Trustee, Rosie Verdin, to the Board.

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<sup>8</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

<sup>9</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

<sup>10</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

Clerk:

Clerk May reported she provided copies of the filed budget to the Board in their meeting packet. She completed the three sets of minutes for review. The Oaths of Office for the 9 newly elected officials were filed with the County Clerk on May 15, 2017. She hopes to have information regarding the Open Meetings Act training, for all officials, in June. She also reported on receiving a thank you letter from the Sisters of St. Francis for the grant for the Bluestem Festival.

Highway Commissioner:

Commissioner Maffeo reported his staff continues to work on pot holes. There is a drainage problem in the Ridgewood neighborhood, Cleveland Avenue, where a field is being flooded. He is working with Attorney Burkey on this due to concerns about the right of way. The 2016 Bid No. 1, Spring Green project, is scheduled to be published on May 25 with a bid opening on June 8 at 9:00 a.m. This is for culvert replacement at three intersections, resurface and curb work. The Will County Highway Department will be providing the pipe. He attended a meeting with Accountant Witt at the County Highway Department to review our Motor Fuel Tax account and to see if funds are available for additional road work.

Supervisor Vera asked if the Commissioner had an actual road project “plan” that he is working from and the Commissioner replied yes. He indicated work needs to be done next, on Rowell Avenue, Ashley and Richards and 5<sup>th</sup> and Hebbard Streets. He hopes this group can be done with MFT.

Supervisor Vera asked if he has been able to contact Twins and Sons regarding the concrete work at the Township Building and he said he would be sure to follow up with them.

Assessor:

Assessor Brenzewski reported they are working on the factoring of the residential parcels and servicing a lot of walk in residents. He added, the tax bills have been issued and now residents have concerns. Other than that, just the day to day operations of his office.

Attorney:

Attorney Burkey congratulated newly elected Trustees Gavin and Verdin. He added this is a government agency with great support staff who have experience and are honest.

Accountant:

Accountant Witt reported Auditor, John Michalesko, was at the office working on the audit. She indicated that she was able to get a lot of the preliminary work done prior which assisted him greatly in the process. He will continue to work offsite and then

return for the final presentation. She added that it all went smoothly. She attended the meeting with Commissioner Maffeo at the County Highway Department where they reviewed the MFT records and indicated there are several projects on the books which need to be cleared up. The financial reports for April have been completed and are in the board meeting packets for review. Please contact her with any questions. She asked for some clarifications on the 2016 Road Improvement bid for the Road District. She also asked about enforcement of the no parking signs and how the fines would be collected. The tickets will be issued by the Sheriff and then assessed by the courts so any fines received will be issued by the Circuit Court Clerk.

Animal Control Center:

Director Gimbel distributed the statistical report for April, reflecting there is nothing significant with the exception of the kitten population. Many have been placed in foster care until they can be adopted out at 8 weeks. On May 13, they participated in a Pet Expo sponsored by Senator Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant. Officer Charles Nelson recently attended a Chemical Immobilization training (stun gun and tranquilizer) and was certified. She indicated a protocol is needed for the use of this type of measure which she will be working on. She thanked the board for the three new hires and indicated there may be a need for one more person for weekend coverage.

Senior Liaison:

Jeff Wallace thanked the board for the appointment as the new Senior Liaison and indicated he anticipates enjoying this work. He reported attending the meetings of 8 out of the 12 groups which receive funding. He will continue to report on the various groups he visits.

**Receipts:** Trustee Schuster moved to deposit all funds into their proper accounts as presented for the period ending May 23, 2017. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A voice vote was taken.<sup>11</sup>

**Expenditures:** The Supervisor presented the following invoices for town board approval for the period ending May 23, 2017:

<u>FUND</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
General Town	\$43,163.88
Motion: Trustee Schuster	
Second: Trustee Verdin	
Roll Call: Ayes 3, Nays 0 <sup>12</sup>	
General Assistance	\$7,597.66
Motion: Trustee Schuster	
Second: Trustee Verdin	

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<sup>11</sup> The motion carried

<sup>12</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

Roll Call: Ayes 3, Nays 0<sup>13</sup>

Road and Bridge \$134,419.46

Motion: Trustee Verdin

Second: Trustee Schuster

Roll Call: Ayes 3, Nays 0<sup>14</sup>

It was noted, the bills for the Road District were high because these payments included the final payment for a truck purchased last year.

Animal Control \$17,250.62

Motion: Trustee Verdin

Second: Trustee Schuster

Roll Call: Ayes 3, Nays 0<sup>15</sup>

No bills were presented for consideration of the Senior Fund.

Certifications for all funds were passed unanimously.

### **Closed Session:**

None

### **Adjournment:**

Trustee Schuster moved to adjourn the town board meeting to June 13, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Verdin. A voice vote was taken.<sup>16</sup>

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Beth Ann May

Clerk

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<sup>13</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

<sup>14</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

<sup>15</sup> Roll Call Ayes (3) Trustees Schuster, Verdin and Supervisor Vera

<sup>16</sup> The motion carried