



**Minutes**  
**174<sup>th</sup> Annual Town Meeting**  
**April 9, 2024**

STATE OF ILLINOIS       )  
COUNTY OF WILL       )  
TOWNSHIP OF JOLIET     )

The Annual Town Meeting scheduled to be held in said Township and County in the State of Illinois, 175 West Jefferson Street, Joliet Township Government Offices, Town Hall Meeting Room, on April 9, 2024, was called to order by Township Clerk Alicia Morales at 6:30 p.m. The following official business was transacted:

Clerk Morales welcomed everyone to the 174<sup>th</sup> Joliet Township Annual Town Meeting and explained how the meeting is meant for the electors, who can vote on items, and the process for getting items on the agenda. Clerk Morales notes that the meeting will go out of order, with the minutes being held until the end before voting. The Clerk then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**Verification of the Call:**

Clerk Morales verified that the legal notice for this Annual Town Meeting was published on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, in the Joliet Herald-News, that newspaper being one of general circulation in Joliet Township.

Notices of the Annual Town Meeting were also posted at:

- City of Joliet
- County of Will
- Joliet Public Library
- Township Government Offices and Meeting Room
- Township Website

**Township History:** Read out loud by Joliet Township Resident Ms. Marge Fleet.

**Election of the Moderator:**

The Clerk called for the election of a Moderator for this meeting. Ms. Sandra Aguirre moved to nominate Ms. Janet Diaz as Moderator of this meeting. Seconded by Ms. Maria Torar. The Clerk called two times and a final third time to see if there were any other nominations for Moderator. There being no further nominations, Clerk Morales stated that they have one nomination for Moderator as Ms. Janet Diaz. Clerk Morales asked for a motion to close nominations. Ms. Marge Fleet motions and is seconded by Ms. Sandra Aguirre. The motion passed unanimously by a show of vote cards. Clerk Morales then administered the Oath of Moderator for the 174th Annual Town Meeting to Ms. Janet Diaz. Moderator Janet Diaz thanked Ms. Marge Fleet for providing the History of the Township to the residents in attendance.

**Township Duties:** Read out loud by Clerk Alicia Morales.

**Financial Statements:**

The Moderator indicated that the financial statements are available in the town hall meeting room on the wall. The moderator then asked if there were any questions on the financial statements and none were raised. The Moderator requested a motion and a second to approve the reports. Ms. Marge Fleet made a motion to approve all the financial reports. It was seconded by Ms. Karissa Fleming. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously by a show of vote cards.

**Delegation of Power:**

Moderator Janet Diaz motioned to delegate authority to the Township Board to purchase, sell, and lease property for a period of twelve months and the setting of a price for the sale or lease of property owned by the public body. Clerk Morales said the vote would give the Township permission throughout the coming year to purchase property. Any decisions would still need to be approved during a regularly scheduled Board meeting. Mr. Vincent Alessio motions and is seconded by Mr. Luther Johnson. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously by a show of vote cards.

**Statement from the Supervisor:**

Supervisor Angel Contreras shared his appreciation to the audience for attending and participating in the 2024 Annual Town Meeting today, Tuesday, April 9, 2024. The Supervisor explained the importance of the Electors to vote on the agenda item to authorize the Township Board to delegate the purchase, sell, and lease property for twelve months as done so in the previous Annual Town Meeting that allowed the purchase of the Peter Claver Center and start the Peace Over Violence program. This authority is contingent with the expansion of the Township's other services. During the regular town board meeting that was held today, Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., in the reports it was mentioned how the Township staff increased, and they require more office space to continue their dedicated work to serving the community. The Supervisor anticipated significant progress in the next two months, enabled by the authority granted by the electors. Supervisor Contreras expressed excitement about the township's growth and thanked the board members, staff and the present electors.

**Minutes:**

The Moderator asked for a motion to approve the 2023 Annual Town Meeting minutes of April 11, 2023, which have been made available in copy form for the individuals in attendance. Ms. Sue Bustin motioned to approve the 2023 Annual Town Meeting of April 11, 2023, minutes and was seconded by Ms. Marge Fleet. The motion passed unanimously by a show of vote cards.

**Moderator Compensation:**

Clerk Alicia Morales thanked Ms. Janet Diaz for being the Moderator. Every year the Moderator is compensated for their work leading the Annual Town Meeting. Clerk Morales asks for a motion to approve compensation for Moderator Janet Diaz. Ms. Marge Fleet motioned to compensate Ms. Janet Diaz for her work as Moderator and is seconded by Mr. Jeffery Wallace. The vote was called. The motion passed unanimously by a show of vote cards.

**Moderator Comment:**

Ms. Janet Diaz inquired if any other present officials would like to speak and share their comments.

### **Comments from Township Officials:**

Clerk Morales introduced other elected officials who were present for today's 174th Annual Town Meeting, including Trustee Antoine Edwards, Trustee Tanya Arias, Trustee Ray Slattery, Trustee Cesar Escutia, Assessor Jim Brenczewski, Highway Commissioner Vincent Alessio, former Trustee Karl Ferrell and District 86 School Board member and Precinct Committee Woman Sandra Aguirre. Ms. Arias thanked the attendees present and encouraged them to visit the Joliet Township Government website and social media for information on services such as the new violence prevention program with a community chat scheduled at the Mitchell Center this Thursday, free tax preparation, and the medical loan closet. Ms. Arias also urged residents to contact the Board Members, the Supervisor, or the Clerk with any unmet needs that require to be addressed.

### **Moderator Comment:**

Ms. Janet Diaz asked the public if anyone would like to speak and share their thoughts.

### **Public Comment:**

Clerk Morales reiterated the importance of resident participation in the meetings, emphasizing that townships are the government closest to the people. The Clerk highlighted the story of Ms. Fleet's civic engagement today as an example. Clerk Morales emphasized that the Township is creative and forward-thinking, securing grants to expand services without increasing tax burdens on residents.

### **Closing Remarks:**



On a similar note, District 86 Board Member Sandra Aguirre addressed how proud she is to have the Township's Supervisor Angel Contreras and the staff members working on important solutions to sensitive issues regarding Violence Prevention. Ms. Aguirre noted in the past that the previous Joliet Township administration wasn't pushing for these changes and is delighted to see how far the current Joliet Township administration has improved to keep doing good for the community.

### **Motion to Set Time for Next Annual Town Meeting:**

Clerk Morales stated that the Annual Town Meetings are set by law and are to be held on the second Tuesday of April. Moderator Ms. Janet Diaz informs the attendees that the date is set by statute for April 8, 2025 at 6:15 p.m. Ms. Marge Fleet made a motion to set the time of the 2025 Annual Town Meeting for 6:15 p.m. on April 8, 2025. Ms. Sandra Aguirre seconded the motion. The motion passed by a show of vote cards. The Moderator states that the 2025 Annual Town Meeting is set for 6:15 p.m. on April 8, 2025, in the Town Hall Meeting Room at the same location.

### **Adjournment:**

Clerk Morales asked if there are any other businesses to discuss. There being none, Clerk Morales then called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Marge Fleet moved to adjourn the 2024 Annual Town Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Latreavette McCline. The motion passed unanimously by a show of clappers. The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

  
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Moderator, Janet Diaz  
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Township Clerk, Alicia Morales