

City of Joliet

150 West Jefferson Street
Joliet, IL 60432



Meeting Minutes - Pending Approval

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

5:00 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers

Arts Commission

Commission Members

Donna Franks-Tapley

Eric Gorder

Tom Grotovsky

Vince Logan

Ron Romero

John Simpson, Jr.

Peg Stoiber

Deborah Summers

Ellis Wright

Citizens who are unable to attend the meeting can email comments in advance of the meeting to publiccomment@joliet.gov.

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present	Eric Gorder, Peg (Marguerite) Stoiber, Ron Romero, Vince Logan , Tom Grotovsky and Deborah Summers
Excused	John Simpson Jr and Ellis Wright
Absent	Donna Franks-Tapley

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes 05.15.2024](#)

A motion was made by Vince Logan , seconded by Tom Grotovsky, to approve COUNCIL MEMO #TMP-7385: Meeting Minutes - May 15, 2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye:	Gorder, Stoiber, Romero, Logan, Grotovsky and Summers
Excused:	Simpson Jr and Wright
Absent:	Franks-Tapley

3. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS

This section is for anyone wanting to speak regarding agenda items and are allowed a maximum of 4 minutes. It is not a question and answer period and staff, and the Commission members do not generally respond to public comments. The City Clerk has a copy of the public speaking procedures; please note, speakers who engage in conduct injurious to the harmony of the meeting shall be called to order by the Presiding Officer and may forfeit the opportunity to speak.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of the Poet Laureate Contract for 2024-2026

Attachments: [Draft Agreement](#)

Staff Liaison Heitner provided an overview of the proposed Poet Laureate contract. Commission Chair Ron Romero asked if any specific events have been designated for the Poet Laureate to attend. Uxmar Torres, the prospective Poet Laureate, responded saying that he and the City's Cultural Affairs Director Lori Carmine, are currently planning out potential events where he can provide his services and are coordinating on press releases.

Staff Liaison Heitner also confirmed that the City can use its new Communications Director to promote these events in the coming years.

A motion was made by Vince Logan , seconded by Peg (Marguerite) Stoiber, to approve COUNCIL MEMO #TMP-7452: Draft Poet Laureate Agreement. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye:	Gorder, Stoiber, Romero, Logan, Grotovsky and Summers
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Excused: Simpson Jr and Wright

Absent: Franks-Tapley

B. Allocation of Up to \$7,000 of FY2024 IAC General Operating Support Grant Funds to Support the City Center Partnership Utility Box Decoration Project

Attachments: [Utility Box Memo](#)

Commission Chair Ron Romero provided an overview of the proposed project, which would be managed by the City Center Partnership (CCP), and would use digital artist designs to install vinyl coverings on potentially as many as ten utility cabinets around Downtown Joliet. The proposed utility cabinets that are City owned and operated have been authorized for participation in the project by City staff, provided that the CCP send all potential artwork designs to the City for approval, and that several safety related conditions are met with each wrapping. The expectation is that each wrapping would last about 10-15 years. The areas with the most traffic would receive project priority.

The Joliet Arts Commission would pay for each artist's design work that is submitted and approved at a suggested price of \$500 per artist and design. The CCP suggested that outreach be made to the guitar sculpture artists from last year for the first iteration of the utility box project, since programming is time sensitive. Romero commented that there is a hope that this could be an ongoing project. Romero mentioned that there would be a juried selection if there are more than ten proposed designs for this year.

Commissioner Logan asked whether the City or artist would own the intellectual property rights to the art. Staff Liaison Heitner responded that ownership to the art would likely need to be clarified in the contract each artist would have with the CCP.

Commissioner Gorder asked that in the future there be an effort to have an open call for artists on this project. Gorder also suggested leaving certain key spots open for future artists. Commissioner Romero also asked about the possibility of using sponsorships to help fund future efforts with this project.

A motion was made by Vince Logan , seconded by Peg (Marguerite) Stoiber, to approve the requested allocation of up to \$7,000 of FY2024 IAC General Operating Support Grant Funds to support the City Center Partnership Utility Box Decoration Project. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Gorder, Stoiber, Romero, Logan, Grotovsky and Summers

Excused: Simpson Jr and Wright

Absent: Franks-Tapley