

City of Joliet

150 West Jefferson Street
Joliet, IL 60432



Meeting Minutes - Pending Approval

Monday, April 13, 2026

5:30 PM

City Hall, Council Chambers

Board of Fire and Police Commissioners

Commission Members

Chairman Quinn Adamowski

Natalie Coleman

Tomas Ponce

John Stefanski

Pat Strocchia

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

ROLL CALL

Quinn absent

Present	John Stefanski, Tomas Ponce, Natalie Coleman and Pat Strocchia
Absent	Quinn Adamowski

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Evans, Deputy Chief Sherrie Blackburn, Deputy Chief Robert Brown, Deputy Director Human Resources Gina LoGalbo, and Recruiting and Retention Manager Michelle Rivera.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes:

[TMP-9745](#)

Board of Fire & Police Commissioners Meeting - March 18, 2026

Attachments: [Board of Fire & Police Meeting Minutes - March 18, 2026.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Pat Strocchia, seconded by Natalie Coleman, to approve the minutes of the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners Meeting - March 18, 2026.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Stefanski, Ponce, Coleman and Strocchia

Absent: Adamowski

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary/Commissioner Stefanski read the Secretary's Report into record: POLICE DEPARTMENT - #13 Adam Smolik Valles was removed for failure to meet requirements on April 2, 2026.

AGENDA ITEM

Administrative Questions - Discussion Only

[TMP-9754](#)

Secretary/Commissioner Stefanski and Police Chief Evans had a brief discussion regarding Marcus Mitchell's oral interview.

Secretary/Commissioner Stefanski and Deputy Chief Blackburn briefly discussed promotional scores for the sergeant examination and confirmed that seniority will serve in the case of a tie.

Secretary/Commissioner Stefanski, Gina LoGalbo - Deputy Director of Human Resources, and Pauline Ames - Board of Fire and Police Liaison briefly discussed the process change for releasing scores and rank for the Police Promotions List.

Ms. LoGalbo briefly explained to the Commissioners HR's review of the hiring process for fire and police. She explained the need for compliance with the Job Opportunities for Qualified Applicants Act (Ban the Box). The Commissioners and Ms. LoGalbo concurred conditional offer hiring letters would be sent on behalf of the Human Resources Department.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the hiring process for police officers and the integrity of written and oral examinations being conducted on-line verses in-person.

JOLIET FIRE DEPARTMENT - AGENDA ITEMS

Joliet Fire Department New Hire Eligibility List Corrected

[TMP-9731](#)

A motion was made by Natalie Coleman, seconded by Pat Strocchia, to approve the Joliet Fire Department New Hire Eligibility List with the clerical corrections.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Stefanski, Ponce, Coleman and Strocchia

Absent: Adamowski

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Strocchia, seconded by Coleman, to enter into closed session.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Stefanski, Ponce, Coleman and Strocchia

Absent: Adamowski

A motion was made by Pat Strocchia and seconded by Natalie Coleman to reconvene the meeting at approximately 6:18 p.m. with Commissioners Stefanski, Coleman, Ponce, and Strocchia present and Commissioner Adamowski absent.

Secretary/Commissioner Stefanski added an item to the Secretary's Report for the POLICE DEPARTMENT: Applicant #14 Donovan Starks withdrew his name from the Police New Eligibility List for consideration prior to this Board of Fire and Police Commissioner on April 13, 2026.

JOLIET POLICE DEPARTMENT - AGENDA ITEMS

Hiring of Certified Lateral Joliet Police Officers

[TMP-9743](#)

A motion was made by Pat Strocchia, seconded by Tomas Ponce, to approve

the conditional hiring of Lateral Applicant #10 Miguel Avila to the Joliet Police Department pending successful completion of his vision and medical examinations.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Stefanski, Ponce, Coleman and Strocchia

Absent: Adamowski

A motion was made by Pat Strocchia, seconded by Natalie Coleman, to approve the conditional hiring of Lateral Applicant #11 Christopher Thunherst to the Joliet Police Department pending successful completion of his vision and medical examinations.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Stefanski, Ponce, Coleman and Strocchia

Absent: Adamowski

A motion was made by Natalie Coleman, seconded by Tomas Ponce, to approve the conditional hiring of Lateral Applicant #12 Tavares Moore to the Joliet Police Department pending successful completion of his vision and medical examinations.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Stefanski, Ponce, Coleman and Strocchia

Absent: Adamowski

Approval of Joliet Police Promotions Lists

[**TMP-9744**](#)

A motion was made by Pat Strocchia, seconded by Tomas Ponce, to approve the Joliet Police Promotions Lists.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Stefanski, Ponce, Coleman and Strocchia

Absent: Adamowski

Chief Evans clarified for the record that the three conditionally hired officers are all Lateral police officers.

NEW OR OLD BUSINESS, NOT FOR FINAL ACTION OR RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Strocchia, seconded by Ponce, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:18 p.m.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Stefanski, Ponce, Coleman and Strocchia

Absent: Adamowski