

## **ORDINANCE NO. 17972**

### **AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A CITY OF JOLIET ARTS COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Joliet has the authority to adopt ordinances and to promulgate rules and regulations that pertain to its government and affairs and protect the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Joliet, an Illinois municipal corporation (the "City"), is a home rule municipality as contemplated under Article VII, Section 6, of the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the passage of this Ordinance constitutes an exercise of the City's home rule powers and functions as granted in the Constitution of the State of Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, the City seeks to establish a Joliet Arts Commission to provide policy direction and input regarding the arts to: foster and enrich the quality of life within the community and its public spaces; enhance the image and creative history of the community among those who live in and travel to Joliet; and provide new citizen engagement opportunities pertaining to the arts; and

**WHEREAS**, the composition of such a commission is intended to include a diversity of talent and creativity among its membership.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOLIET, ILLINOIS, PURSUANT TO ITS STATUTORY AND HOME RULE AUTHORITY, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1:** Chapter 2, Article IX of The Code of Ordinances City of Joliet, Illinois shall be amended to include the following addition:

#### **DIVISION 7 - City of Joliet Arts Commission**

##### **2.314. Creation and Composition**

- (a) The Arts Commission is hereby established. The Commission shall be comprised of eighteen (18) members: seventeen (17) at-large voting members and one (1) non-voting ex officio member. All members shall be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council. Members shall serve without pay.*
- (b) With the intention of reflecting the full diversity of the Joliet community, Commissioners shall be chosen from constituencies from various segments of the community with a diverse range of backgrounds and occupational experiences. Ideal candidates will have experience, expertise, or interest in: the areas of the arts; arts education; planning; event planning; business; and/or other related fields.*
- (c) Seventeen (17) at-large members will be comprised of individuals with one or more of the following backgrounds:*
  - a. Fine Arts*
  - b. Non-profit*

- c. Government
- d. Education
- e. Business
- f. Marketing/Public Relations/Media
- g. Architecture/Urban Planning
- h. Law

(d) One (1) city staff member will serve in an ex officio role as liaison to the Commission to provide logistical staff support.

### **2.314.1 Organization and Bylaws**

- (a) Terms for Commissioners shall be two years.
- (b) The Commission shall organize each calendar year by the election of a chairperson and vice chairperson, and such other officers as it deems necessary, from among its members. Terms for the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall be one year, but an individual may succeed him/herself from year to year. The Chairperson shall preside over meetings. The Vice Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson in her/her absence. The city staff liaison shall be the acting Secretary.
- (c) Meetings shall be held monthly on a regular schedule, unless the schedule is determined to interfere with other city business or the majority of Commissioners request a special date due to extenuating circumstances. All meetings will be open to the public and are subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. The Commission shall adopt rules to conduct meeting business during the annual reorganizational meeting.
- (d) A quorum shall consist of nine (9) voting members.
- (e) The commission shall adopt bylaws developed by members for the purpose of governance. Bylaws may be amended by Commission members with approval by a 2/3 majority vote of a quorum of members.

### **2.314.2 Roles and Responsibilities**

The Commission shall be charged with the following:

- (a) Seek and foster partnerships with non-profits, organizations, institutions, foundations and businesses that support the arts.
- (b) Support and foster strong bonds between and among arts organizations and local institutions in the community to encourage arts programming to be planned through strategic collaborations and coordination. This shall include working cooperatively with other city boards, commissions and committees, and other public and private agencies, institutions and organizations.
- (c) Enhance the economic base in the city by advocating for and promoting opportunities to combine arts with economic development efforts and by advocating for economic incentives for attracting and sustaining artists, arts, arts organizations, art programming, etc.

- a. *Explore and recommend to the Mayor, City Council, City staff, and other groups, ways to further the development of, interest in, and attract investments regarding the arts and Joliet's diverse cultural heritage.*
- b. *Explore and recommend to the Mayor, City Council, City staff, and other groups suggestions for creative place making opportunities and offer advice on relevant city projects that could incorporate artistic endeavors or artistic considerations.*
- c. *Serve as the city's official convening body for recommendations on public policy and economic development issues related to the arts and cultural heritage.*
- (d) *Review relevant proposals and assist in the process by which artists, arts organizations, neighborhood organizations, businesses, developers, merchant associations, charitable foundations, or any other member of the general public proposes and creates projects in the arts which are located in public places.*
- (e) *Where appropriate, assist art based organizations, agencies and institutions in the research, identification and application of grants for programming and initiatives.*
- (f) *Where appropriate, assist arts based organization, agencies and institutions in their pursuit of private sector donations for the purpose of enhancing the arts within the community of Joliet.*

**SECTION 2:** Severability. In the event that any provision or provisions, or portion or portions of this Ordinance shall be declared to be invalid or unenforceable by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such adjudication shall in no way affect or impair the validity or enforceability of any of the remaining provisions or portions of this Ordinance that may be given effect without such invalid or unenforceable provision or provisions, portion or portions.

**SECTION 3:** Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

**SECTION 4:** Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

**PASSED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.

  
MAYOR PRO-TEM

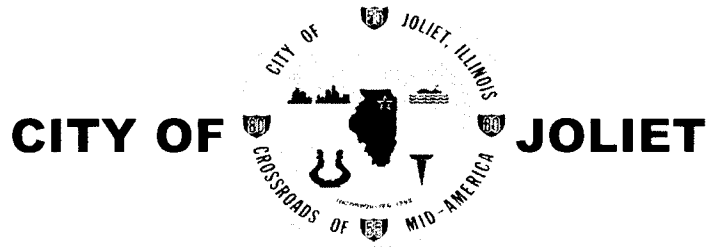
  
CITY CLERK

**VOTING YES:** Councilman Dickinson, Councilwoman Gavin, Councilmen Hug, Morris, Mudron, Councilwomen Quillman, Reardon and Councilman Turk.

**VOTING NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOT VOTING:** Mayor O'Dekirk.

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
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INTERIM CITY MANAGER  
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150 WEST JEFFERSON STREET  
JOLIET, ILLINOIS 60432-4158

**DATE:** JULY 16, 2019

**TO:** MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** STEVE JONES, INTERIM CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A JOLIET ARTS COMMISSION

## PURPOSE

To amend the municipal code to create a new commission that would focus upon community arts.

## BACKGROUND:

The City has been without an *organized* arts presence since Friends of Community Public Art disbanded. Fortunately, a diverse interest in the arts has remained strong within Joliet as demonstrated by local music and entertainment venues, theater productions, themed festivals, Burned District Artists, and of course, the Rialto Theater.

To focus upon the energy and future potential of arts within the community, we have been approached by residents interested in creating an arts commission. An ordinance has been attached to highlight the general roles and responsibilities of such a commission. Such commissions are common within other municipalities, and they provide a means of putting quality of life issues on the radar screen. As you know this is often difficult when facing competing municipal needs and priorities.

An effort has been made to identify individuals, institutions and organizations who would add value to a potential commission. We have been informed that as of this date, a total of fifteen (15) individuals have expressed an interest in serving as an Arts Commission member. If the formulation of this commission was approved by City Council, there would be immediate involvement to achieve the stated roles and responsibilities of the ordinance.

## DISCUSSION:

Quinn Adamowski has been the citizen coordinator of this initiative and has received support from the Mayor and Administration to have this considered.

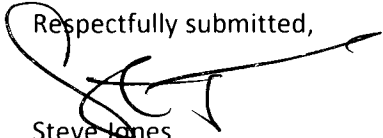
A wide and diverse group focused upon the arts will add value to Joliet. At present, this is a constituency that has momentum, but lacks a means of direct engagement with the City. Creation of a commission will provide the opportunity for engagement.

If this Commission is approved by Council, a list of interested individuals will be provided to the Mayor for consideration as members.

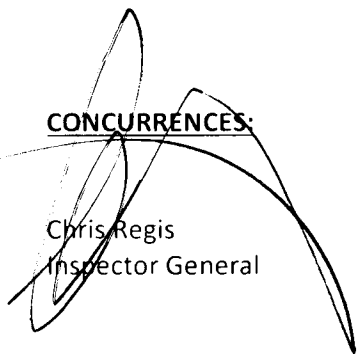
**RECOMMENDATION:**

This ordinance was discussed at the Land Use & Legislative Committee on May 2 and on July 10. The Committee recommends approval by the full Council. Based upon the above, the Administration recommends the Mayor & City Council approve the ordinance establishing a Joliet Arts Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Steve Jones  
Interim, City Manager

**CONCURRENCES:**

  
Chris Regis  
Inspector General