



: OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS :

: OF THE TOWN OF THE CITY OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS :

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of the City of Peoria, Illinois, was called to order at 6:00 P.M., on April 8, 2025, by Town Clerk Stefanie Tarr, in Room 400, City Hall Building, 419 Fulton Street, Peoria, Illinois, with proper notice having been posted.

Present: Town Clerk Stefanie Tarr, Town Supervisor LaTrina Leary, Dr. Rita Ali, Mr. Andre Allen, Mr. Denis Cyr, Mr. Charles Grayeb, Ms. Denise Jackson, Dr. Bernice Gordon-Young, Mr. John Kelly, Mr. Zachary Oyler, Mr. Timothy Riggerbach, Mr. Mike Vespa, Town Attorney John Redlingshafer, Town Assistant Ian Munk, Police Chief Eric Echevarria, Township Electors, and members of the media.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Town Clerk Stefanie Tarr requested a moment of silent prayer or reflection and then she led the pledge of allegiance. She explained to citizens that if they resided within the boundaries of Peoria Township and were a registered voter, they were Peoria Town electors and they could participate in making motions or voting on items on the agenda.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR

Town Clerk Tarr opened the floor for nomination of a Moderator. Township citizen Trina Bonds nominated Dr. Rita Ali to be elected Moderator; seconded by Township citizen Sheldon Schafer.

After the third call for nominations, Town Clerk Tarr determined there were no other nominations, and she closed the nominations.

Motion to elect Dr. Rita Ali as Moderator was approved unanimously by viva voce vote.

Dr. Rita Ali was sworn in as Moderator by the Town Clerk. Moderator Ali gave an overview of the rules and preservation of order.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE TOWN OF THE CITY OF PEORIA

Mr. Oyler moved to approve the Statement of Financial Affairs of the Town of the City of Peoria; seconded by Mr. Cyr.

Motion to approve the Statement of Financial Affairs of the Town of the City of Peoria was approved unanimously by viva voce vote.

SHALL THE FOLLOWING ADVISORY QUESTION OF PUBLIC POLICY BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS FOR THE MARCH 17, 2026, ELECTION:

SHOULD THE STATE OF ILLINOIS ADOPT FAIR AND ACHIEVABLE SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS FOR INDEPENDENT AND NEW-PARTY CANDIDATES, MAKING THEM EQUAL TO REQUIREMENTS OF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATES (RATHER THAN CURRENT REQUIREMENTS THAT ARE UP TO 20 TIMES GREATER) FOR COUNTY, STATE AND FEDERAL ELECTIONS, IN ORDER TO INCREASE BALLOT ACCESS FOR POTENTIAL CANDIDATES?

Township citizen Sheldon Schafer gave an overview of ranked choice voting and cited he worked with various organizations to have brought the advisory question to the Annual Town Meeting. At the conclusion of his remarks, Township citizen Schafer moved to approve the advisory question; seconded by Township citizen Connie Romanus.

Discussions were held regarding the advisory question. Two citizens spoke in favor of the advisory question, and named its value as a method of increased ballot access for independent and non-partisan candidates.

Moderator Ali spoke regarding increased signature requirements due to redistricting.

Mr. Grayeb spoke of the confusion during the previous election regarding signature requirements.

Motion to allow the following advisory question of public policy be placed on the ballot for submission to the voters for the March 17, 2026, election: *Should the State of Illinois adopt fair and achievable signature requirements for independent and new-party candidates, making them equal to requirements of Republican or Democratic party candidates (rather than current requirements that are up to 20 times greater) for County, State and Federal elections, in order to increase ballot access for potential candidates?* -- was approved by a vote of 20 Yeas; 1 Nay.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON APRIL 9, 2024 AND OF MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON JUNE 11, 2024

Mr. Allen moved to approve the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on April 9, 2024 and of minutes of the Special Town Meeting held on June 11, 2024; seconded by Mr. Kelly.

Motion to approve the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on April 9, 2024 and of minutes of the Special Town Meeting held on June 11, 2024 was approved by viva voce vote.

CITIZENS' OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE ELECTORS

Moderator Ali stated no more items could be considered for the agenda as the agenda must be determined in advance.

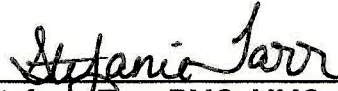
It was determined that no citizens wished to address the electors.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cyr moved to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting; seconded by Dr. Gordon-Young.

Motion to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting was approved by viva voce vote.

The Annual Town Meeting was adjourned at 6:29 P.M.



Stefania Tarr, RMC, MMC, Town Clerk
Town of the City of Peoria, Illinois

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