March 10, 2014

CITY OF JOLIET’S LEGAL PROCESS TO REPLACE VACANT COUNCILMANIC SEAT IN DISTRICT 4

The process is set forth in Section 3.1-10-50 of the Illinois Municipal Code. The process is as follows:

Upon the submittal of a resignation letter to the Mayor, the Mayor has 60 days to nominate a successor. The nominee must be “qualified” to hold the office of District Councilman. City Attorney Jeff Plyman stated, “The nominee must be eligible to vote in City elections and must have been a resident of District 4 for at least one year.”

The Mayor and City Council then have 30 days to act on the nomination in open session. A simple majority must concur in the nomination for the appointment to take effect. If the nomination fails to receive a simple majority, the Mayor may then nominate a second qualified person. Once again, the Mayor and City Council have 30 days to act on the nomination in open session.

If the second nominee fails to receive a simple majority, the Mayor may than make a “temporary appointment” of either the first or the second nominee. Council concurrence is not required for this appointment. The temporary appointment remains in effect until another mayoral nominee receives a simple majority or until the position is filled via election.

Based on the timing of Ms. Barber’s resignation, the next election for the District 4 Councilmanic seat will be the April 7, 2015, general election. There will not be a special election.

For additional information contact the City of Joliet Legal Department at 815-724-3800.

James D. Hock
City Manager

The City of Joliet is the fourth largest city in the state of Illinois, located just 45 miles southwest of Chicago’s Loop. Home to over 147,000 residents, in addition to thriving businesses and attractions, the City of Joliet is easily accessible by rail, auto and bus transit. A perfect place to live, work and play, Joliet is constantly striving to promote growth and diversity. For more information on Joliet visit www.cityofjoliet.info or call 815-724-4000. The City of Joliet’s Media Releases are always available on our website.