

MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON OCTOBER 20, 2025

VILLAGE HALL

October 20, 2025

7:00 PM

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Village Clerk Porter took roll. There was a quorum.

PRESENT: Mayor Nelson and Trustees Daggett, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT:

Ann Novoa, Finance Director	Carl Estelle, Chief of Police
Malea Calvert, Asst. Finance Director	Matt Berk, Asst Fire Chief
Scott Bugner, Director of Building & Zoning	Nicole Castagna, Asst to Village Mgr/Communications Mgr
John Brunke, Director of Public Works	Joe Miller, Village Attorney
Bridget Wachtel, Village Manager	21 Community Members, Media and Others
Jonathan Bogue, Asst Village Manager	

GENERAL STATEMENT/RULES OF ORDER (Announced by Mayor Nelson):

The meeting was streamed via Zoom. Mayor Nelson reviewed the public comment policy, which is available on the Village website.

RECOGNITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

1. A Proclamation Declaring October 2025 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Mayor Nelson read the Proclamation for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Renee Basick accepted the Proclamation. Ms. Basick also provided information about “The Devil’s Playground” Halloween Haunted Yard Display that raises funds for an LGBTQ+ non-profit focus group called “*Haunters Against Hate*” that supports teen groups around the country.

2. A Proclamation Declaring October 20 – 26, 2025 as Friends of the Library Week

Mayor Nelson read the Proclamation for Friends of the Library Week to recognize how the Flossmoor Library is one of the cornerstones of the community.

PUBLIC PRESENT WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

(Note: That in reporting these comments, the Village has not researched the accuracy of any comments.)

- 1. Warren Engelberg (Flossmoor resident):** Gave commentary about his perspectives on revolutionary reform throughout history.
- 2. Jackie Riffice (Flossmoor resident):** Provided information about her book club.

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3. Vanessa Smith (Flossmoor resident): Discussed problems she has had with cars parking between the end of her driveway and the street corner. This is a frequent problem that causes safety issues since she lives across from a park. She requested that No Parking signs be placed between the end of her driveway and the street corner. Mayor Nelson advised that the Village would look into this issue.

4. Andrea Perry (Flossmoor resident): Voiced complaints about representations involving another Flossmoor resident that were made during the public comments at the October 6, 2025, Board meeting.

There were no further public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve the **Consent Agenda Items #3-6**. Trustee Lofton so moved, Trustee Mitros seconded. Mayor Nelson asked if there were any items on the consent agenda that were requested to be removed from the consent agenda for discussion, and Trustee Mustafa requested that Agenda Item #6 be removed. Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve **Consent Agenda Items #3-5**. Trustee Daggett so moved, Trustee Lofton seconded.

A vote on the Motion was presented and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Daggett, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

Agenda Item #6 - Consideration of a Resolution of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois Approving Salary Schedules for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve Agenda Item #6. Trustee Lofton so moved, Trustee Daggett seconded.

Trustee Mustafa requested that the term “salary” be changed to “salary ranges” in the resolution approving the salary schedule and asked for clarification about the salary ranges. Attorney Miller advised that this term could be amended, and Village Manager Wachtel answered Trustee Mustafa’s question about the salary ranges and noted that the only adjustment being made was the addition of the Community Service Officer II position. No other board members had comments and/or questions.

A vote on the Motion was presented and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Daggett, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS ACTION ITEMS:

Mayor Nelson stated there were none. Mayor Nelson expressed gratitude to: (a) Flossmoor’s Green Commission for the parkway tree plantings over the weekend that brought the total number of new trees planted in the Village to almost 700 since 2021. Mayor Nelson recognized the volunteers for the tree plantings that included the Homewood Flossmoor High School football team and coaches, South Suburban Jack and Jill, members of AKA, Public Works, Stephanie Wright (Community Engagement Manager), Village Clerk Porter, and many neighbors. Mayor Nelson also gave a shout-out to the Village of Flossmoor’s Public Art Commission for its ongoing fundraiser to benefit public art.

ACTION ITEMS

Agenda Item #7 – Presentation and Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Audit.

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve this action item. Trustee Mitros so moved, and Trustee Daggett seconded.

This action item was presented by Ann Novoa, Finance Director, who advised that the Village received unmodified opinions on its financial statements (this is the highest of opinions). Brian LeFevre, the auditor from Sikich, presented further information about the results of the audit. Mr. LeFevre explained the comprehensive audit sections and praised the Village for achieving, for the 47th consecutive year, an award for excellent financial reporting! Mr. LeFevre explained the very high standards the Village must meet to achieve these favorable audit results and advised that the Village’s financial statements met the highest level that could be achieved for financial reporting. Mr. LeFevre also advised that the audit process went very smoothly, was completed on time, and in accordance with the schedule.

Mayor Nelson congratulated the Village’s finance department on achieving another unmodified opinion and excellent audit results and advised that the results be published under the Finance Department page on the Village’s website. The Board also praised the Village’s finance team for achieving another unmodified opinion.

A vote on the Motion was presented and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Daggett, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

Agenda Item #8 – Consideration of an Ordinance of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois Amending Chapter 103 and 150 of the Village of Flossmoor Municipal Code (Alcoholic Beverages)

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve this action item. Trustee Daggett so moved, and Trustee Mitros seconded.

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This action item was presented by Village Manager Wachtel, who gave information about the continuation of this discussion from the October 6, 2025, Board Meeting in response to Tornado BP's request for a BW license. Village Manager Wachtel advised the Board about the amended ordinance for a Class BW-1 license that was drafted following the October 6, 2025, Board Meeting, which has limitations on sale hours and access for beer and wine. Village Manager Wachtel clarified that the ordinance as prepared had two mistakes both related to permitted sales hours; the permitted sales hours for Class P-GC and Class B-WO should not be changed from those that are currently in the code, and she requested that the ordinance be considered with that amendment which would not change those sales hours. Representatives from Tornado BP were present. Trustee Daggett confirmed that the Board was only voting on the creation of this new classification and not voting on awarding the license to Tornado BP during this meeting.

A vote on the Motion was presented with the amendment and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Daggett, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, and Rodgers
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: Trustee Mustafa

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Agenda Item #9 – Discussion of the Fiscal Year 2026-2031 Five Year Projections

This discussion item was presented by Village Manager Wachtel and Finance Director Novoa, who advised that this presentation was prepared to evaluate the Village's financial preparation and response to fiscal issues. This is a budget exercise and in addition to discussing our projections, they evaluated the methodology of the budget study, the findings, and how the projections compare to actual figures. Village Manager Wachtel reported that the Village is not experiencing financial distress, the Village has successfully sustained its operations, and the Village has made the right policy decisions to be in a strong financial position. Finance Director Novoa advised that, for purposes of this exercise, they take a very conservative approach. Village Manager Wachtel further advised regarding options for financial policies, allocating funds, avenues for increasing revenues, and service prioritizations and service modifications.

Mayor Nelson advised that she has been contacted by two more developers about southwest Flossmoor. Mayor Nelson also again clarified that the \$1.5 million operating deficit discussed last Spring was a planned operating deficit, that this was money that was outside of the Village's required minimum level reserves, and that those funds were available to cover a planned deficit. Mayor Nelson further advised that she is not in favor of the following: (a) A home rule option; (b) Additional taxes on utilities such as water; (c) Changes in pension contributions and/or the capital equipment fund, and (d) A future referendum absent any significant changes. Mayor Nelson advised she is in favor of reviewing the following: (a) Continued development; (b) A places for eating and amusement tax; (c) Evaluating a lower reserve policy; (d) Looking at ways to increase efficiency of different departments without cutting services; and (e) Moving operating expenses that support water and sewer systems away from the general fund to the water and sewer fund.

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The Board discussed the places for eating tax and when it would need to be implemented to be effective, how it would be a favorable way to increase revenue since it is a tax that is shared by those who are coming from outside of the Village, and why it is favorable since it is a pass-through tax. The Board also discussed focusing hard on economic development, whether to lower reserves, reducing expenditures, and continuing to be conservative with finances. With this Board feedback, staff will bring additional discussions to the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item #10 – A Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss the Employment of Specific Individuals, Property Acquisition, and Litigation

Mayor Nelson stated that the Board needed to go into Executive Session to discuss the sale of Village property, and before doing so asked if there was any other business. The Board responded as follows:

Trustee Mustafa: No Comments

Trustee Rodgers: No Comments

Trustee Daggett: Praised the Village's response to an issue recently raised by a local business, and how the Village is business-friendly.

Trustee Dorsey: No Comments

Trustee Lofton: Recognized Police Chief Estelle for being awarded the Public Safety Award by the Second Congressional District Democrats.

Trustee Mitros: No comments other than also congratulating Chief Estelle on receiving the Public Safety Award.

Clerk Porter: No Comments

Village Attorney Miller: Praised the Village for its excellent financial position.

Village Manager Wachtel: Advised that the Village is pursuing an actuarial analysis to study eliminating Tier 2 public safety pensions, and that the Village, even with the Cook County tax delay, remains in a strong financial position.

Mayor Nelson further announced that: (a) The Chicago Tribune and Chicago Architectural Center published stories about the tour of Flossmoor's Frank Lloyd Wright Home and that this was a successful event; (b) The third annual staff appreciation lunch was this upcoming Friday; (c) Flossmoor Social was opening this week, (d) October is National Woman's Small Business Month; and (e) Halloween is approaching and to be careful and drive safely.

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the sale of Village owned property. Trustee Daggett so moved, and Trustee Mitros seconded. This motion was presented and passed by a roll call vote.

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AYES: Trustees Daggett, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: Mustafa

The Board went into Executive Session at approximately 9:15 p.m. and returned at approximately 9:44 p.m.

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 9:44 p.m.

Village Clerk Porter took roll. There was a quorum.

PRESENT: Mayor Nelson and Trustees Daggett, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT:

Bridget Wachtel, Village Manager

Joe Miller, Village Attorney

Jonathan Bogue, Asst Village Manager

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Mayor Nelson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Dorsey. All were in favor, none opposed.

AYES: Trustees Daggett, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cecil E. Porter
Village Clerk