

*MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2022*

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2022

7:30 pm

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

Village Clerk Gina A. LoGalbo took roll.

PRESENT: Mayor Nelson, Trustees Bradley-Scott, Daggett, Driscoll, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa

ALSO PRESENT: Village Manager Bridget Wachtel; Assistant Village Manager Jonathan Bogue; Chief of Police Tod Kamleiter; Commander Keith Taylor; Village Attorney Kathi Orr; Village Clerk Gina A. LoGalbo; 96 residents

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order. Mayor Nelson noted that the meeting was being held in person and via Zoom, which is permitted by Public Act 101-0640. Mayor Nelson noted that the public was invited to monitor the meeting via Zoom or attend the meeting in person. Public participation would be permitted only in person during the citizen comment portion of the agenda. Members of the public could submit comments on items on the agenda by emailing info@flossmoor.org, which would be shared with the Village Board.

Recognitions and Appointments

There were no recognitions or appointments for this meeting.

Mayor Nelson noted that the Public Comment portion of the Agenda would be held at the end of the meeting. She stated that if public decorum wasn't maintained the Village Board would recess and that if attendees wanted a chance to speak, they would need to stop yelling. They continued to yell when requested to stop.

Because the public in attendance was interfering with the Village Board's ability to conduct business, Mayor Nelson asked for a motion to recess at 7:35 pm. Trustee Driscoll so moved, seconded by Trustee Daggett. Mayor Nelson called for a vote on the motion as presented. Motion passed by a voice vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Daggett, Driscoll, Lofton, Mitros and Mustafa.

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

The Village Board was recessed for approximately six (6) minutes. The Board returned to session at 7:41 pm.

Mayor Nelson referred to the Consent Agenda (which encompassed Agenda Items 1-4):

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on August 1, 2022

*MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2022*

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2022

7:30 pm

- 2. Presentation of Bills for Approval and Payment as Approved by the Finance Committee (August 15, 2022)*
- 3. Consideration of the Acquisition of a Sculpture to the Flossmoor Rotational Sculpture Art Program ("Threshold by Sam Spiczka")*
- 4. Consideration of Approval of a Contract and Budget Amendment for Airy's, Inc. for Paving Work on the Berry Lane Drainage Improvements Project*

Mayor Nelson called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, and noted that item #1, Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on August 1, 2022, would be pulled off of the consent agenda. Trustee Daggett so moved, seconded by Trustee Mitros. Mayor Nelson called for a vote on the motion as amended. Motion passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Daggett, Driscoll, Lofton, Mitros and Mustafa.

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

Reports of Committees, Commissions and Boards

There were no reports of Committees, Commissions or Boards this meeting.

Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #5 – A Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss the Employment of Specific Individuals, Property Acquisition and Litigation.

There was no need to enter into Executive Session.

Prior to public comments, Mayor Nelson asked Chief Kamleiter to address the Board.

Chief of Police Tod Kamleiter provided an update on the investigation of the July 10, 2022 officer-involved shooting. He stated that the Flossmoor Police Department had submitted all of its reports to the Illinois State Police Public Integrity Task Force related to the July 10th, officer-involved shooting. These reports were first shared with the family of the deceased and now they are sharing them with the larger community. The most up-to-date information, including these reports, are available on the Village's website. The names of the individuals involved and the names of the Officers have been redacted due to this incident being an active Illinois State Police Investigation.

Chief of Police Tod Kamleiter stated that after reviewing the incident report and the body-worn camera video, the two officers responded in accordance with the Flossmoor Police Department's use of force policy, given the immediate danger in the home and the brandishing of a deadly weapon. He stated that they are confident the independent investigation will confirm their beliefs.

Mayor Nelson stated that if public decorum wasn't maintained, attendees would be asked to leave and that it was the last warning.

*MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2022*

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2022

7:30 pm

Chief of Police Tod Kamleiter stated that it is the opinion of the Flossmoor Police Department that their officers responded in a manner, as they were trained, to protect the multiple lives that were in danger. He stated that their support is with the officers who were faced with making a difficult, but necessary decision to use force during this tragic incident.

Mayor Nelson stated that she and the Village Board echo the Chief's statement and support the officers and emergency personnel who responded to that dangerous call.

Several meeting attendees were directed to leave the meeting due to their disruption of the meeting as outlined in the Village Board's Public Comment Policy, including yelling from the audience, speaking over the Village Board members, and using foul language.

Mayor Nelson stated that what happened on July 10th is a tragedy and their hearts are with the Miller family and all those involved and that in an effort to progress and heal from this tragedy, the Village is working with professionals and community partners to schedule a community forum. Please be assured that the Village will continue to share more information as the investigation progresses.

Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Board on a Non-Agenda Item:

Mayor Nelson stated that the Village Board welcomed the public's comments, and asked that attendees observe Board policies for public comment, which includes a five (5) minute limit on speaking-time per person, and public decorum. If attendees were part of a group, they could designate a single speaker so that the Board could hear from as many people as possible. Per Board policy, there would be a maximum public comment time of thirty (30) minutes. Mayor Nelson stated that if attendees signed in, their names would be called for them to comment in the order in which they signed in. She stated that if the list was exhausted in less than the allotted time of thirty (30) minutes, they would take comments from those who didn't sign in. In order to hear from as many people as possible in the allotted time frame, they would start an electric timer at the start of each person's comments and respectfully requested that the speakers abide by the time limit to permit others to speak.

Additional meeting attendees were directed to leave the meeting due to their disruption of the meeting as outlined in the Village Board's Public Comment Policy, including yelling from the audience, speaking over the Village Board members, using foul language and anti-Semitic gestures.

Lewis Spells stated that he was a younger brother of Madeline Miller and that her funeral was last Saturday. He stated that the police did not follow any type of protocol, and that they went to kill his sister. He stated that the police are trying to paint the picture that they are the victims, but they aren't. He stated that he spoke at the last Village Board meeting. He stated that the police don't have proper training, and if they did, they are still looking at the color of their skin. He stated the cops had plenty of room to use a taser or restrain her, that she was 64 years old, that the cops could have de-escalated the situation, that they went there to kill, and that he wants to keep his sister's memory alive. He noted that there are eleven (11) family members, and that she was the nicest woman. He stated that with the cops' training, they should have been able to handle the situation better. He stated that their family were lied to since July 10th, and that she was

MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2022

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2022

7:30 pm

dead on the scene, although they were told she died later at the hospital. He stated that the video showed the truth and what actually happened to his sister and that he wants to see justice for the people who did it, so it doesn't happen again.

Dr. La'Shawn Littrice stated that she was standing with her comrades, colleagues and community members regarding the murder of Madeline Miller. She stated that she's spoken at previous Village Board meetings and that most of the proceedings are disrespectful to the family and she can only pray for the family. She stated that as a mother, wife, community psychologist, and Black woman, she hasn't seen the type of compassion for the family that should exist. She doesn't know if it's a universal feeling that is coming across from the entire Village Board, and she hasn't heard anyone address what they are really saying. She stated that their demands are that they want a discussion about justice for Madeline Miller and have it placed on the Village Board's agenda. They are asking for the names of the police officers who shot and killed Madeline Miller, and they want the CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out on the Streets) program or a similar program implemented so that police don't intervene when they shouldn't. She stated that they are asking for an independent investigation and that because she alleges racial disparities exist in the Flossmoor Police Department ("FPD"). She stated that continuous training for crisis intervention, mental health, and de-escalation is needed, as well as an elected civilian police oversight committee and residency requirements for police officers. She stated that with the elected civilian police oversight committee, it needs to be people from the community who've had interactions with the police that weren't pleasant. She stated that her comrades who were put out of the meeting have stood with them for years, and that they don't come to cause tension. She stated that the point of civil disruption is to make people feel uncomfortable because the family is uncomfortable and that they say 'Black lives matter' because all lives can't matter until Black lives matter. She said that they have seen too many times that situations are handled incorrectly because they look at the color of the person's skin instead of the content of their character. She again asks for her requests to be placed on the agenda and let people discuss them with the Village Board.

Aaron McIntyre stated that he would be speaking using the words of a thirteen (13) year old Black girl from New York. He provided a definition of the word accomplice and stated that assistance was given in the killing of a Black woman. He stated that Madeline Miller wasn't protected and that they are asking for the implementation of programs that would de-escalate situations, so people don't die. He asked what's wrong about that, and asked for a definitive answer on what Flossmoor's done and will do to ensure that Black people don't die.

Titilayo Anoma stated that when someone in the audience yelled out at the Mayor, they were escorted out, but when a Black woman felt threatened by another man, he was allowed to stay and there was nothing done to ensure her safety, which parallels the situation with Madeline Miller. Miss Anoma read a poem that she wrote called 'When I was fourteen (14), I wrote poetry.'

Dale Mitchell stated that he moved to Flossmoor about twenty (20) years ago and talked about the sense of community from his welcoming neighbors and how it still exists today. He stated that when he coached Little League, there was a game in particular where a batter hit the ball for the first time and everyone was ecstatic, but the catcher caught the ball and the batter was out. Mr. Mitchell noted the sense of euphoria

MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2022

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2022

7:30 pm

and the satisfaction of someone doing what they were supposed to do and the disappointment that followed. He stated that neighbors would look out for his son when they would see him walking late at night and how he appreciated the sense of community and people looking out for his son. Mr. Mitchell stated that when his son was a caddy and biking to work, he had an accident, and neighbors bandaged him up. He noted how the community works together. He sees people trying to create issues in the community and that the community is working through issues together as one community.

Randy Schmidt stated that he was sorry for everyone's loss and noted the pain that everyone was feeling. He stated that too many issues are happening in the world and that the country is too divided. He noted that only God knows what's in the hearts of men and women and that people can ask for God's help to get through the tragedy and forgive and work together.

Jacqueline Campbell Spells stated that she is the sister of Madeline Miller, and that she was planning her funeral on her 65th birthday. She stated that when they were growing up, they called the police officers 'Officer Friendly,' who gave them crayons and coloring books, and now they're trading them for kill shots. She stated that her sister didn't deserve to die, that she's angry, and that they were down to seven sisters from eight. She stated that people need to wake up, look at their own families, and say her sister's name with respect.

James Campbell stated that the human race was made by God, and he sprinkled some people with color. Madeline Miller needed help, and in his opinion, Flossmoor failed her. He stated that it's in the training and targets that police use. He stated that he used to train people and they would instill in their heads what they wanted them to do. So when you train people on dark-colored targets and for kill shots, they are being trained to do that job and that's what he thinks the officers saw. He stated that the country needs to solve some of these issues, people need each other, and that it's going to happen again. He stated that people need to find out what's wrong with the training and that it's not just Flossmoor. He said that Flossmoor has a problem now that needs to be addressed and asked the Mayor to look into the training and targets used by the police officers. He said that we need to find a way so that it doesn't happen again.

Jennifer McIntyre, a Homewood, IL resident, stated that she wrote an open letter in support of Mayor Nelson from her household that desires justice for Madeline Miller. She stated that at a recent Village Board meeting, a letter was read, which referenced a visit to her home by Mayor Nelson and the letter was critical of the Mayor. Mrs. McIntyre stated that the Mayor offered to meet with their family at their home to answer questions about the response to Madeline Miller's death. As Homewood residents, they can't vote for or against her, and she went to their home because of their relationship. She stated that her father passed away a few hours before Mayor Nelson arrived, so she wasn't present at the meeting with the Mayor, Mr. McIntyre, and her son. The Mayor was present to answer questions, and they discussed various issues. Although nothing was resolved, the exchange was respectful, meaningful, and affirmed what their family has come to learn about Mayor Nelson, including that she cares about the young people in the community. The Mayor texts Mrs. McIntyre congratulations when the Mayor sees her kids have been applauded for some accomplishment. The Mayor is a neighbor who cares about the greater Homewood-Flossmoor community, and has welcomed the McIntyre family in her home many times as participants in the robotics program her family hosted before it moved to the Homewood Science Center. Mayor Nelson is also a friend

MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2022

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2022

7:30 pm

who asks about her condition, and Mrs. McIntyre hopes that people don't overlook the Mayor's many years of service she has dedicated to people of all ages and ethnicities across the greater HF community. Mrs. McIntyre stated that to people who loved Madeline Miller and people like her son who are fighting for justice on her behalf, she laments the loss of their neighbor. She stated that there is nothing that can make the solution right or ease their pain, but given her love for the community and her respect for Mayor Nelson, she commits to rolling up her sleeves, getting involved, and finding collaborative solutions that bring healing to the families impacted by the tragedy. She stated that something has to be done, some concessions have to be made, and that her decades of community and public service have taught her that lasting progress takes time. She applauds the activists and noted that activism is a great catalyst to demand action, but progress requires collaboration, funding and donations. She stated that she and her husband are willing to be a part of the dialogue with others that leads to changes that the activists are proposing and that she wants to help be part of the solution.

Eric Leake offered his deep condolences and prayers to the family of Madeline Miller. He stated that it continues around the country, and that Flossmoor was considered to be one of the safest Villages in Cook County and that the incident may be the one to smear that reputation. He stated that while there are no quick solutions, he has two suggestions. One, to the Mayor and Village Board, make sure the family knows how deeply sorry they are that this is happening. He stated that no one knows when it will come to our homes. He's a preacher and said that whatever we sow, we reap, and encouraged the Village Board to not dismiss what the protestors and people fighting for social justice in the Black and Brown communities are saying to them. Second, if the Board is serious about fixing the situation, creating a citizen police review board will say to the community that they want to fix it. He stated that police can't investigate themselves, that others in the community need to help do that, and it would be a giant step towards resolution.

Penny Lee-Cox gave her prayers and condolences to the family, and apologized for the disrespect that they were shown by several people who call other people outsiders, which is due to their white supremacy culture and their white privilege. She stated that they don't understand that calling people outsiders is a negative connotation to Black and Brown people. She stated that she lived in Flossmoor for thirty (30) years, understands the culture of Homewood-Flossmoor, understands that her children graduated from HF High School, her tax dollars go to Homewood and Flossmoor, her children went to a Flossmoor school district, and that people are intertwined in Homewood and Flossmoor. She stated that her sons also played baseball in the schools, and noted that she and other present have a lot in common. She stated that her husband owns a business in Flossmoor, and alleged her kids were also harassed by Flossmoor police. She stated that she has a right to speak, that no one is going to silence her voice, and that when someone tells her to shut up, she finds that offensive and noted that the man who said it, was allowed to stay in the meeting. She stated that she raised three (3) sons in Flossmoor, paid a lot of taxes, and has a right to say whatever she wants to say. She said it was an atrocity and injustice that happened in Flossmoor, and people don't seem to understand the gravity of it, want to gloss over it, or look at the time when others are speaking. She stated that if people aren't policing the police, then they aren't capable of policing themselves. She stated that children shouldn't be used as pawns, and to stop saying that the police night out was canceled because the kids were going to be traumatized by a protest. In her opinion, the kids are traumatized already because every time there is a shooting with a police officer they ask her if they are next. She asked, what kind of society do we live in where the children are allowed to see that.

MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON AUGUST 15, 2022

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

AUGUST 15, 2022

7:30 pm

Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Board on an Agenda Item:

No residents wished to speak on an Agenda Item.

As there were no other items to discuss, Mayor Nelson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Daggett so moved, seconded by Trustee Mitros and passed by a voice vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Daggett, Driscoll, Lofton, Mitros and Mustafa.

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Gina A. LoGalbo
Village Clerk