

MINUTES OF MAYOR BRAUN AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON JULY 20, 2020

VILLAGE HALL

JULY 20, 2020

7:30PM

Mayor Braun called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Village Clerk Ananda Billings took roll.

PRESENT: Mayor Braun, Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Kimmons, Mitros, Williams and Village Clerk Ananda Billings (via Webex)

ALSO PRESENT: Village Manger Bridget Wachtel, Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson, Finance Director Scott Bordui; Police Chief Tod Kamleiter, Fire Chief Greg Berk; Public Works Director, John Brunke, Village Attorney Kathi Orr, and Building and Zoning Administrator, Scott Bugner; 10 residents

Introductory Comments

Mayor Braun stated that in order to mitigate the transmission of the virus and reduce risk of COVID-19 illness, the Village has been advised and directed by the State to allow no more than 50 people to congregate for public gatherings. As such, this meeting of the Board of Trustees will be attended by those who voluntarily choose to attend physically as well as by those who voluntarily choose to attend via conference line. The public is invited to attend the meeting in person, so long as each individual undergoes a temperature check prior to entering the meeting space and wears a mask during the meeting. Citizens are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

This meeting along with all subsequent remotely held Board meetings will be recorded. Public comment will be only available during the portion of the meeting during which the public is invited to address the Board. As communicated to the public earlier, those questions that were submitted to staff in advance of the meeting would also be addressed during this time.

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on July 6, 2020

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further changes or comments. He called for a motion to approve the minutes of July 6, 2020. Trustee Williams so moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley-Scott, and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Kimmons, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

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Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Board

Mayor Braun noted that in order to ask for public comment via conference line, without confusion, he would call upon individuals for comment after the public is identified alphabetically. He called for comment via groups of last names starting with: A-G; H-N; O-U; V-Z.

Michelle Nelson 2430 Vardon Place, wanted to thank Ms. Wachtel and Staff for the email sent out with regards to flooding issues. For the corrosion study item, she questions why Flossmoor isn't paying the difference between what Homewood and Flossmoor have contracted as it represents a gap of about \$100,000. Mayor Braun thanked her for her question and noted that they will hold that for when it comes up as a part of the regular agenda.

Mayor Braun then asked Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson to read any comment received prior to 6 p.m. the day of the Board Meeting. Ms. Matson read a comment from Maggie Bachus asking the Village to confirm the timeline for completion and distribution of the New Resident Brochure.

Ms. Wachtel responded. She noted that Ms. Bacchus is correct; the New Resident packet has not been updated. Staff and members of the CRC worked on it but the project was put aside to complete the branding project and other communications and marketing projects. It will be updated soon.

Mayor Braun stated that Ms. Lillie Lacey submitted a comment which was also emailed to the Village Board. Mayor Braun thanked Ms. Lacey for sending her emails and photos and asked Public Works Director John Brunke to address her comments. Mr. Brunke commented that during his conversations with Ms. Lacey, she asked that her backyard issues be prioritized before the street flooding. We do acknowledge that we came up with a solution for her backyard flooding, but when working with our consultants, they advised us not to move ahead until we can be sure that putting a pipe from her backyard to the front would not make the street flooding worse. Staff did ask their consultants about the viability of this but were informed that the street flooding fix should be prioritized. This information was communicated to Ms. Lacey. Mayor Braun stated that the Village is studying a temporary pumping solution to mitigate flooding in the immediate term.

Trustee Williams asked when the Village will have an answer regarding whether pumping the water to an empty field is feasible. Mr. Brunke answered that it will still be a week before the engineers finish the modeling. There is a concern that pumping the water down Maryland would flood out other houses. Trustee Williams commented that it does seem as if we consistently move the needle from one place to another trying to get the ultimate solution. Trustee Kimmons asked what can be done to accelerate this process or put a line in the sand that will guarantee that the project will go forward. Mr. Brunke responded that we are pushing the consultants. We have also offered to sandbag the resident's driveway but the resident declined. Trustee Williams stressed that continuous education and proactive communication is needed to effectively reach out to the community.

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The Mayor referred to Agenda #1 - Consideration of a Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, and the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois

Public Works Director John Brunke addressed the Board. On July 6th the Village Board approved a contract to Strand Associates for their work on the upcoming corrosion control study for the water supply change to the City of Chicago Heights. The project is extensive, and we are looking to partner with the Village of Homewood for cost savings for both communities.

The total cost of the proposal is \$366,284. This cost is divided at the ratios of 52.9% for Homewood and 47.1% for Flossmoor. This equates to a cost of \$172,482 for Flossmoor. The Homewood cost is higher because Burns & McDonnell is performing additional engineering services for Homewood. Strand has advised us that on our own, this project would cost us \$250,000. Staff recommends that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for a Corrosion Control Study for Hammond Water Supply via Chicago Heights and approve a budget amendment to line 08-11-7-771 in the amount of \$172,482.

Chris Ulm of Strand Associates noted that he was available to answer any questions. Mayor Braun asked Mr. Brunke to confirm that this study would need to be completed no matter which water source we looked for, and he confirmed that yes, no matter where we sourced our water, this study would need to take place. He also noted that Flossmoor is only paying for the work that benefits the Flossmoor portion. Braun said that he saw a comment on social media about using Homewood's study via FOIA. Mr. Brunke responded that this is a very risky position to take. Flossmoor has its own operator permit through the IEPA, and once the water is received at the Sterling Pump Station, Flossmoor further treats it with chlorine. Therefore, IEPA will likely have the opinion that Flossmoor, as an independent water operator, needs to produce an independent corrosion control study. By holding off on this study, we risk IEPA's approval of a new operating permit and could put us seriously behind. Flossmoor must also do its due diligence to keep up with Homewood's studies so that we are able to move to a new water supply when Homewood does. We run the risk of not being able to connect to a water supply if the IEPA were to reject our use of the Homewood study. Mayor Braun also stated this position would not be ethical. Mayor Braun also noted that we're saving about a third over what we would pay if we did this on our own.

Mayor Braun then offered Ms. Nelson an opportunity to repeat her question. On option 1, their cost was \$219,000 for the work and option 2 was \$366,000 combining Homewood and Flossmoor. Our share is more than the difference between Burns and McDonnell's two options. Homewood is only paying \$219,000 for option 1, so why is Flossmoor's percentage higher? Mr. Brunke noted that with Flossmoor included as part of the scope of work, the total study has more work and the price does go up. However, this approach is still a savings. Chris Ulm stated that if Homewood's original cost were doubled, it would be well over \$400,000 and both are seeing economies of scale.

Trustee Williams asked if there are other communities considering being a part of this new approach via Chicago Heights, and if so whether they can help pay for these upfront costs. Ms. Wachtel responded that we are aware that other communities have expressed interest, but we can't say who definitively is acting on that offer. The driving issue is that Homewood and Flossmoor have a contract expiring in 2022, and many of our neighboring communities have the benefit of additional time on their current contracts to make the decision. Ms. Nelson also inquired as to if it was worth negotiating the \$17,000 that Homewood was asking the Village to pay for project management and design. Ms. Orr stated the portion that we're paying

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is for work that we would have to do whether or not we go with them. She also stated that as separated the costs are reasonable. Chris Ulm responded that this cost covers work that Burns and McDonnell had already invested in the project design, of which Flossmoor is benefiting, and in his opinion the partial recuperation of those costs is reasonable.

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further questions and as they did not, he called for a motion to approve a Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, and the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Williams, and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Kimmons, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #2:– Consideration of an Ordinance of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Chapter 150, Article 9 of the Village of Flossmoor Municipal Code.

Finance Director Scott Bordui addressed the Board. This agenda item takes direction given to Mr. Bordui, from the Board at the last meeting with regards to the sewer rate.

Mayor Braun noted that for the benefit of the public, the Board agreed to defer the increase on the water portion of the water and sewer increase. This ordinance tonight is with regards to the sewer portion of the fee.

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further questions, and as they did not, he called for a motion to approve an ordinance of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Chapter 150, Article 9 of the Village of Flossmoor Municipal Code as presented. Trustee Bradley-Scott so moved, seconded by Trustee Driscoll and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Kimmons, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda #3: Consideration of an Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Certain Surplus Personal Property Owned by the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois

Public Works Director John Brunke addressed the Board. Two vehicles once used by the Fire and Public Works departments need maintenance that would exceed the value of the property. The vehicles will be brought to America's Auto Auction in Crestwood, IL for sale. The ordinance in question will authorize the sale of these vehicles.

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further questions, and as they did not, he called for a motion to approve the ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Certain Surplus Personal Property Owned by

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the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois as presented. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley-Scott and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Kimmons, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #4: Consideration of an Ordinance Granting Emergency Powers to the Mayor of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois

This is a recurring item for consideration that needs to be re-approved every meeting in order to allow the Village to maintain the delivery of services during the pandemic. Mayor Braun reviewed the points of consideration in the staff memo and asked that this ordinance be approved for this next two-week period until the next Board meeting.

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further questions and a they did not, he called for a motion to approve the Ordinance Granting Emergency Powers to the Mayor of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois as presented. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley-Scott, and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Kimmons, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

Mayor Braun referred to the Finance Committee – Presentation of Bills for Approval and Payment (June 20, 2020)

Trustee Driscoll made a motion to approve hand checks in the amount of \$0.00 and invoices in the amount of \$391,667.54 for a total of \$391,667.54. The motion was seconded by Trustee Bradley-Scott and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Kimmons, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

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Other Business:

Mayor Braun informed attendees that the New Resident Event has been rescheduled for September 26 and may well be a virtual or outdoor event.

The Green Commission's Recyclepalooza will be October 3 at Parker Junior High.

Trustee Williams participated in the community police event with the HF Kings for the first hour of a two-hour session. She complimented our police team on answering citizen's questions thoroughly and thoughtfully and also commended the citizen participants, including the youngest who were around 9 years old. She was very proud of them and encouraged by how they actively sought outreach and engagement from the police in order to foster good community relations. She thought that the children who addressed the police were thoughtful and respectful with their comments and questions incredibly poised and brave.

Trustee Kimmons stated that he and Trustee Driscoll also attended and echoed Trustee Williams' remarks by saying that it was wonderful to see the children so involved, and he also encouraged adults to attend and become involved as well.

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

Mayor Braun noted that an Executive Session was needed to discuss the Employment of Specific Individuals and Property Acquisition. Trustee Williams so moved, and the motion was seconded by Trustee Driscoll and passed by roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Kimmons, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees moved into Executive Session at 8:17pm.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees resumed at 8:55pm.

As there were no other items to discuss, Mayor Braun called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Williams and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Kimmons, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

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The Regular Meeting ended at 8:56pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ananda Billings

Ananda Billings
Village Clerk