

MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON JULY 19, 2021

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

JULY 19, 2021

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, Driscoll, Hoag, Lofton, Mitros

ALSO PRESENT: Village Manager Bridget Wachtel; Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson; Police Chief Tod Kamleiter; Assistant Public Works Director Dan Milovanovic; Assistant Finance Director Ann Novoa; Attorney Kathi Orr; Village Clerk Gina A. LoGalbo; 11 residents.

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order. Mayor Nelson noted that the meeting was being held in person and via Zoom. She noted that public participation would be permitted during the citizen comment portion of the agenda, and that citizens could submit comments via email at info@flossmoor.org.

Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Board:

Mayor Nelson asked if there were citizens wishing to address the board on an agenda or non-agenda item.

No citizen wished to address the board in person or via Zoom.

Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson reported that one email was submitted to info@flossmoor.org: Joyce Wicks inquired about whether there was a free rain barrel program. Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson stated that she would respond to Ms. Hicks and inform her of the MWRD's heavily discounted rain barrel program.

Mayor Nelson referred to Recognitions and Appointments

There were no recognitions or appointments scheduled for tonight's meeting.

Mayor Nelson referred to the Consent Agenda (which encompassed Agenda Items 1-3):

Mayor Nelson called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley-Scott. Mayor Nelson called for a vote on the motion as presented. Motion passed by a roll call vote.

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

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Mayor Nelson referred to Reports of Committees, Commissions or Boards

There were no reports of committees, commissions, or boards.

Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #4 – Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Session Meeting Held on July 6, 2021 and Consideration to Hold those Minutes Confidential.

Mayor Nelson called for a motion to approve and hold confidential the minutes of the Executive Session Meeting held on July 6, 2021. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Hoag. Mayor Nelson called for a vote on the motion as presented. Motion passed by a roll call vote.

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #5 – Discussion of a Liquor License Request for a Wine Bar & Video Gaming Salon in Flossmoor Commons.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel stated that Mr. Patel, who owns Family Wine & Liquor in Homewood, had submitted a proposal to open a video gaming salon and wine tasting business. She reminded the Board that the Village does not keep any liquor licenses ‘on the shelf’ which means that all of the current licenses in each class are accounted for, and that the class of license would be either a Class A (consumption on premise) or a newly defined class to accommodate wine tastings or other particular components of Mr. Patel’s operation. She stated that if the Board is agreeable, they would direct the Village attorney to either increase the number of Class A licenses by one or create a new class of license as described. Then the Ordinance would be placed on the next agenda. She stated that as a reminder, by granting a liquor license for consumption on premise, a video gaming license becomes an administrative process, meaning no Village Board approval is needed.

Mr. Patel stated that he had researched the area and noted that the Dottie’s in Olympia Fields did a lot of business, and that Flossmoor does not have a gaming lounge except for in some restaurants. He noted that he planned to have food at his proposed business, like snacks, pizza, and pre-packaged Indian food but not a full kitchen.

Trustee Mitros stated that he would prefer a detailed, formal business plan in order to make a decision on Mr. Patel’s proposal.

Trustee Hoag stated that he would like to see Mr. Patel’s current business’ articles of incorporation, that he would like to see businesses come into Flossmoor Commons, and that Flossmoor hasn’t been receptive in the past to businesses like Dottie’s.

Mr. Patel stated that he doesn’t want to compete with restaurants in the area, that he would like to have a wine bar at the Flossmoor business, he has over 500 wines at his Homewood location, and that the Flossmoor business would be his first gaming business.

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Trustee Lofton inquired about the proposed location and capacity of the business, a former dry cleaning business. Mr. Patel stated that he would like to have six (6) gaming machines in the space and would have about ten (10) people max at any one time. He also stated that the wine tasting would be for the players, or people that just come for a wine tasting.

Trustee Mitros inquired about the proposed bar area.

Mr. Patel stated that there would be a mini bar where the alcohol would be stored, but he wouldn't have a full bar.

Trustee Hoag stated that they have frowned upon businesses like Dottie's, that Mr. Patel's proposed business sounds like a Dottie's, and that would be the issue to get around. He stated that they have reluctantly allowed gaming machines at other restaurants where the primary business is the restaurant, and that they don't want mini casinos.

Trustee Driscoll congratulated Mr. Patel on his Homewood business, that two years ago they would have said no to his current proposal. He also noted there are empty spaces in Flossmoor Commons, and that there may be a niche opportunity for Indian food. He stated that adding something to his proposal so it's not just a gaming lounge could work.

Mr. Patel stated that if the Village requires him to do something with his business plan, he would be willing to do that.

Mayor Nelson stated that it would be helpful for Mr. Patel to provide a space plan to show the layout of his proposed business, a list of what would be available, and the mix of retail, food, bar, and wine sales.

Trustee Lofton inquired about the liquor license class and the newly defined class. Village Attorney Kathi Orr stated that it would be for just wine tasting for consumption on the premises.

Mr. Patel stated that he would like a beer and wine license but not one for hard liquor.

Trustee Bradley-Scott inquired about sanitation in the proposed business if there were food sold there, and stated that Mr. Patel's proposal needs more information.

There was discussion about which government entities other than Flossmoor would handle the food sanitation issues and confirmation that Cook County provides the health inspections for Flossmoor.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel informed Mr. Patel that the Board is interested in a space plan, a business plan in regards to the anticipated sales between food, liquor, and gaming, and that he could contact her when he has all of that information together in order to be placed back on the Board's agenda.

Trustees Mitros and Driscoll stated that there are other business proposals that should be public record that Mr. Patel could review.

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Mayor Nelson asked if there were any discussion items.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel noted that the next event in Flossmoor is National Night Out and Touch-a-Truck on August 3, 2021 from 5 – 8 pm in the Village and IJP parking lots.

Police Chief Tod Kamleiter stated that Coffee with a Cop would be July 24, 2021 from 9 am – 11 am in front of the Bistro on Sterling.

Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #6 on the Agenda: 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.

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

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Lofton, and Mitros.
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Gina A. LoGalbo
Village Clerk