

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

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

April 19, 2021

7:30 pm

Mayor Braun called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel took roll.

PRESENT: Mayor Braun, Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Lofton, Mitros, Williams

ALSO PRESENT: Village Manager Bridget Wachtel, Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson, Finance Director Scott Bordui; Police Chief Tod Kamleiter; Fire Chief Bob Kopec; Public Works Director John Brunke; Attorney Kathi Orr; 38 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 limit the number of in person Board session attendees to 50. A Zoom has been made available for all other citizens who wish to attend remotely. All citizens are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely. Citizens were informed of this decision in advance and invited to submit comments and questions ahead of the Board meeting.

This meeting along with all subsequent remotely held Board meetings will be recorded. He then noted that 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 April 5, 2021

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any changes or comments. He called for a motion to approve the minutes of April 5, 2021. Trustee Bradley-Scott so moved, seconded by Trustee Williams and passed by a roll call vote.

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Board

Mayor Braun asked Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson if the Village had received any questions or comments prior to the meeting. She replied that there were no questions or comments. No citizens present wished to address the Board.

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Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #1- A Resolution Honoring Lieutenant Colonel Jeffrey C. Lemon

Mayor Braun read a resolution in honor and remembrance of Lieutenant Colonel Jeffrey C. Lemon and presented it to his family.

No vote was required.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #2- Resolution Honoring Sharon Lorsch

Mayor Braun read a resolution in honor of Sharon Lorsch.

No vote was required.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #3- Resolution Honoring Brian Goesel.

This item will be deferred to a later meeting.

No vote was required.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #4 - Resolution Honoring Trustee Gyata Kimmons

Mayor Braun read a resolution in honor of former Trustee Gyata Kimmons.

No vote was required.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #5 - Resolution Honoring Village Clerk Ananda Billings

Mayor Braun read a resolution in honor of Village Clerk Ananda Billings.

No vote was required.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #6 - Resolution Honoring Trustee Beverly Diane Williams

Mayor Braun read a resolution in honor of Trustee Beverly Diane Williams.

No vote was required.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #7- Consideration of Appointments to the Fire Pension Board.

Bridget Wachtel explained that she and Carlo Gozzi have served as Mayoral appointments to the Fire Pension Board and it is time to renew the appointments. Mayor Braun called for a motion to approve the appointments of Bridget Wachtel for two years and Carlo Gozzi for one year to the Fire Pension Board. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Driscoll and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #8- Consideration of a Resolution Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 20-21 for the Village of Flossmoor

Finance Director Scott Bordui presented the resolution which reflects budget amendments previously approved by the Village Board and one additional amendment to the Storm Sewer fund canceling the 4th quarter storm sewer administrative transfer. Mayor Braun called for a motion approving the resolution amending the budget for Fiscal Year 20-21 for the Village of Flossmoor as presented. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Lofton and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #9 – Public Hearing on the Adoption of the FY21-22 Budget

Mayor Braun opened the public hearing at 7:58 p.m. He called for comments. There being none, he closed the public hearing on the adoption of the FY21-22 budget at 7:59 p.m.

No vote was required.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #10 – Adoption of the Village of Flossmoor Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 (May 1, 2021 – April 30, 2022)

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel stated that tonight concludes the discussion of the annual budget presentation. The final draft is presented with any changes since the budget was presented in March. The agenda packet includes reports that detail the changes made since the FY 22 budget was presented in March. She highlighted three funds. The first is the Street and Storm Sewer Improvements Fund, in which there is a fund balance allocation. The bond proceeds were received in 2021 but the expenditures will begin in 2022. Taking a look at the General Fund, the total deficit includes a \$408,000 operating deficit, largely attributable to carry overs from FY21 including street resurfacing and sidewalk replacement. We also have water supply improvements and various one-time non-operating costs. The Water & Sewer Fund nearly broke even in FY21. The fund is budgeting a small surplus in FY22. The next priority is improving the financial health of the fund by replacing the water meters. For now, our focus remains on the transition of water supply to the City of Chicago Heights. Mayor Braun commented that our financial planning has served us well, and he anticipates the next Board will continue that. Trustee Williams commented that she has confidence that the new board will continue to address financial challenges proactively. Trustee

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Driscoll echoed Trustee Williams' sentiment. Trustee Hoag commented that we are generally in good fiscal health and stated that Mayor Braun, Scott Bordui and Bridget deserve a lot of credit for that.

Mayor Braun called for a motion adopting the Village of Flossmoor Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 (May 1, 2021 – April 30, 2022) as presented. Trustee Williams so moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley-Scott and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #11 – Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Wages and Salaries for Fiscal Year 2022

Bridget Wachtel presented the resolution authorizing the Village Treasurer to pay wages and salaries for Fiscal Year 2022 as presented in the Fiscal Year 2022 budget.

Mayor Braun called for a motion approving the Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Wages and Salaries for Fiscal Year 2022 as presented. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Lofton and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #12– 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 presented the ordinance which codifies the water rates for utility customers as approved by the Village Board on April 5, 2021.

Mayor Braun asked if there were any questions and as there were none, 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. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Driscoll and passed by a roll call vote.

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

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Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #13– Consideration of an Award of Contract to PSI for Contract Firefighter Paramedics

Fire Chief Kopec presented the recommendation to award a contract to Paramedic Services of Illinois (PSI) for firefighter/paramedic services. PSI is the low bid for the award. There were two different staffing models for the services: as we are today and for an additional three firefighter/paramedics. The contract would be effective on May 1, 2021. The additional firefighters would resolve challenges on the staffing side. There is a national shortage of firefighter/paramedics due to retirements, suspension of training programs due to COVID and pay systems. Mayor Braun commented that it was smart for us to go out to bid to achieve savings. Trustee Hoag asked about the spare ambulance listed in the PSI contract. Chief Kopec said that the bidders provided access to EMS related equipment for special events to enhance their proposals. Those do not get added into the bid because they were not requested as part of the specifications. Trustee Hoag asked what Chief Kopec thought about the need for the third position. Chief Kopec stated that he is strongly in favor of the third firefighter/paramedic to assist in compliance with the OSHA two-in, two-out standard, whereas now we may have to wait for another community to arrive if we don't have enough staff. Trustee Bradley-Scott asked whether the COVID pandemic contributed to an increase in call volume. Chief Kopec said that many communities saw a decrease in call volume through COVID. Unfortunately, there is an overall shortage in filling positions and the additional position would ensure the ambulances are staffed. Chief Kopec said the issue of the third firefighter/paramedic would be studied more thoroughly, and he also intends to address the pay structure of the part-time program which could help as well.

Mayor Braun asked if there were any questions and as there were none, he called for a motion to approve the award of contract to PSI for Contract Firefighter Paramedic Services, as presented. Trustee Williams so moved, seconded by Trustee Mitros and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #14– Presentation of Strategic Plan Update (Fourth Quarter FY 2021 and Summary Report)

Bridget Wachtel shared the 4th Quarter Strategic Plan progress report and provide a summary of successes since 2017, from not only this board but previous boards. Bridget highlighted that going back to 2009, the Village improved its bond rating and the ratings were affirmed in two re-ratings. We have repeatedly responded to financial challenges. We have received a number of grants over the years. The Board has dedicated a lot of resources to infrastructure improvements over the years, but the water supply transition is sometimes overlooked; the supply project has taken a tremendous amount of work and is really a legacy decision by the Board. Ms. Wachtel summarized the accomplishments in economic development, diversity and communication and housing.

Mayor Braun commented that we made a lot of great strides and it has been a labor of hard work. It was not a fun exercise but we got through it with a plan that has served us well. He congratulated the Village

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Board and staff for moving us forward. Trustee Williams stated that it is a very important process and the key is having very candid conversations. Trustee Bradley-Scott stated that the reports on the progress were valuable and you can see the mountains that have been overcome. We have quite a bit of work ahead but it's good to see the strides we've made. Trustee Driscoll echoed that there were difficult conversations, but very important to discuss issues upfront.

No vote was required.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #15– Consideration of an Ordinance of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Amending the Flossmoor Municipal Code Chapter 200, Article 1

Allison Matson presented this recommendation from the Art Commission to prohibit vandalism, alteration or defacement of the Village's sculpture. Village Attorney Kathi Orr said that the consequence could be a \$750 fine through administrative adjudication.

Mayor Braun called for a motion to approve the ordinance of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Amending the Flossmoor Municipal Code Chapter 200, Article 1 as presented. Trustee Lofton so moved, seconded by Trustee Driscoll and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #16– Consideration of an Ordinance Granting Emergency Powers to the Mayor of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois

This is the regular renewal of the granting of emergency powers to the Mayor of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further questions or comments. As there were none, 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, Lofton, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

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Mayor Braun referred to the Finance Committee – Presentation of Bills for Approval and Payment (April 19, 2021)

Trustee Lofton made a motion to approve the payment of hand checks in the amount of \$9,898.65 and invoices in the amount of \$580,551.83. The motion was seconded by Trustee Mitros and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #16 on the Agenda: A Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss the Employment of Specific Individuals, Property Acquisition, Litigation and the Review of Executive Session Minutes.

There was no need to enter into Executive Session.

Mayor Braun referred to Item #17 on the agenda: Approval of Executive Session Minutes Held in 2017 and 2021.

Trustee Williams made a motion to:

Immediately approve the executive session minutes dated February 6, 2017, March 10, 2021 and March 15, 2021 and release them on April 26, 2021.

In accordance with the open meetings act, immediately destroy the February 6, 2017 audio recording.

Immediately approve and keep confidential the executive session minutes dated April 5, 2021.

Trustee Bradley-Scott seconded the motion, and it passed by a roll-call vote.

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

Other Business:

Mayor Braun read a statement upon the conclusion of his official duties of Mayor. He listed the many accomplishments of the Village during his tenure and thanked his family, the Board, the Village Manager and staff for their support.

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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 Bradley-Scott and passed by a voice vote.

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

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Allison Matson
Deputy Village Clerk