

MINUTES OF MAYOR BRAUN AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON MARCH 15, 2021

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

MARCH 15, 2021

7:32pm

Mayor Braun called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

Village Clerk Ananda Billings took roll.

PRESENT: Mayor Braun, Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Lofton, Mitros, Williams
and Village Clerk Ananda Billings

ALSO PRESENT: Village Manager Bridget Wachtel, Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson,
Finance Director Scott Bordui; Police Chief Tod Kamleiter, Fire Chief Greg Berk;
Public Works Director John Brunke; Assistant Public Works Director Dan
Milovanovic; Village Attorney Kathi Orr, 7 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 March 1, 2021

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further changes or comments. He called for a motion to approve the minutes of March 1, 2021. Trustee Williams so moved, seconded by Trustee Lofton and passed by a voice vote.

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

Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting Held on March 10, 2021

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further changes or comments. He called for a motion to approve the minutes of March 10, 2021. Trustee Bradley-Scott 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

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.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #1- Consideration of Appointments to the Green Commission

Mayor Braun introduced Darlyne Klages to the Board. He asked the Board if they had any comments or questions. As there were none, he called for a motion to approve the appointment of Darlyne Klages to the Green Commission. 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

Mayor Braun introduced Jeffrey Lippert to the Board. He asked the Board if they had any comments or questions. As there were none, he called for a motion to approve the appointment of Jeffrey Lippert to the Green Commission. 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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #2- Consideration of the Appointment of Robert Kopec as Fire Chief

Mayor Braun introduced Robert Kopec to the Board. He asked the Board if they had any comments or questions. The Board congratulated Mr. Kopec and thanked Interim Chief Berk for his service. As there were no additional comments, he called for a motion to approve the appointment of Robert Kopec to the position of Fire Chief effective April 5, 2021. 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

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ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

Mayor Braun administered the Oath of Office to Chief Kopec.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #3 – Consideration and Action on an Ordinance Providing for the Issuance of Approximately \$12,025,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021, of the Village, for the Purpose of Paying the Costs of Certain Capital Improvements Throughout the Village and Refunding Certain Outstanding Bonds of said Village, Providing for the Levy and Collection of Taxes to Pay Said Bonds, and Authorizing the Sale of Said Bonds to the Purchaser Thereof

Finance Director Scott Bordui presented the results of the bond sale. As a reminder, the Village has a two-purpose bond issue for the \$10 million for infrastructure and a refinancing of the 2013 watermain improvement general obligation bond. The net interest cost is a rate of 1.7825 percent, which is a fabulous rate. To continue the good news, because the bond sold at a premium, we actually generated an additional \$643,000 in proceeds to do infrastructure improvements. On the refinancing side, we easily met the target to go through with the refinancing, and we will be saving almost \$175,000. When we refinance a bond issue, 100% is a reduction in the property taxes that residents pay. Tonight there are three actions: awarding the bond to the successful bidder, approving the bond ordinance and budget amendments to create new funds for the bond issuance. Scott introduced Anthony Micelli to discuss the bids for the bonds. Interest rates are very low and the Village's rate of AA+ stable outlook was affirmed. The S&P report is very favorable, which drives the interest rate. As Scott mentioned, we will close the bond sale on April 6. Mayor Braun asked Anthony to explain how the Village is getting more than the \$10 million. Anthony explained that municipal bonds are sold at a premium so they will pay more than the par value of the bonds. The reason that an investor wants a premium is that the bonds are tax exempt. You want a higher coupon rate to save more on federal taxes.

Trustee Williams congratulated staff and commented that this reflects the work that has been put in to manage our finances over time. Trustee Hoag said it is a testament to the fiscal stability and sound fiscal planning by the Village. People think we waste money and have huge fiscal problems, but that is not correct. He thanked Scott for this work. Trustee Driscoll congratulated the team. Trustee Mitros commented that the real benefactors are citizens and we are getting a big bang for our buck and getting these big projects done. Mayor Braun commented that the timing was good because we waited for the library bonds to be paid off. Trustee Lofton congratulated staff and said the residents will really appreciate when the work is finished, and they see how we did it. Trustee Bradley-Scott thanked staff for the hard work. She said we are celebrating the phenomenal interest rate tonight, but that also means savings and more work we'll be able to do.

Mayor Braun called for a motion to approve the Ordinance Providing for the Issuance of Approximately \$12,025,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021, of the Village, for the Purpose of Paying the Costs of Certain Capital Improvements Throughout the Village and Refunding Certain Outstanding Bonds of said Village, Providing for the Levy and Collection of Taxes to Pay Said Bonds, and Authorizing the Sale of Said Bonds to the Purchaser Thereof as presented. Trustee Driscoll so moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley-Scott and passed by a roll call vote.

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ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

Mayor Braun called for a motion approving a budget amendment for the FY21 budget to create the 2021 Streets and Storm Sewer Improvement Fund and the 2021 General Obligation Refunding Bonds Fund as presented. Trustee Williams 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 #4– Discussion of the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Fund Equipment Budget

Village Manager Wachtel presented the capital equipment fund budget for FY22. The capital equipment fund is paramount to our financial stability. It is a sinking fund that allows us to save over time to replace our major equipment. It includes all major equipment at a cost of \$5,000 or greater, all computer equipment and all building maintenance. The revenue source is a contribution from our general fund and water and sewer fund. No replacement is automatic. We evaluate every replacement every year. As noted, our raters like S&P view this system of funding replacements very favorably. Going into FY21, we were facing the pandemic and unsure of the financial stability over the next year. We took a very conservative approach and delayed and deferred where we could so the FY 22 budget includes several items re-budgeted from FY 21.

Village Manger Wachtel reviewed the details of the budget. We replaced only what we needed to replace including a police supervisor squad and the police radios which was required by the county. We also received our new aerial fire truck. Before the year ends, we will replace our AED equipment and cardiac monitors as well as some public works and computer equipment. For fiscal year 2022, most items were deferred from 2021, including a generator and vacuum truck. We have four police vehicles scheduled for replacement, two of which were planned for FY 21 but deferred. The Village Manager's car is scheduled for FY22 and is included but likely to be removed before the final budget is approved. Finally, the fire department vehicle planned for FY21 but is deferred to FY22. Trustee Williams asked if any items were deferred more than once. Bridget responded that the manager's car and the sewer jetter had been deferred more than once. Bridget said that police body cameras are included in the FY22 budget for the first time. We completed a pilot program and the product chosen integrates with our squad car cameras. Mayor Braun noted that implementing body cameras is required by the new state law, and this would be required by 2025. In addition, our phone system is going to be replaced which will replace some of our operating costs and may be budget neutral. Our closed circuit camera system is also in need of replacement. We are replacing some office equipment that is in need of replacement including a few printers. Two big items are coming up in building maintenance including carpet and a roof. We always set aside some money for painting, sealcoating, striping of the parking lot and masonry repairs. Several items planned for FY22 are being deferred again. Over the years, the complexity of this fund has increased, but we continue to refine this budget each year. We have seen some fairly large contributions from the General Fund and Water & Sewer Fund to be able to save for replacements. We know this

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system works to ensure we have the money on hand to make these large purchases. Mayor Braun stated that this appears to be a conservative list. Trustee Lofton asked if the deferred vehicles are in good operating condition and can be deferred. Bridget answered that yes, we make sure that the vehicles are in good condition to avoid paying large maintenance costs. Trustee Lofton asked when the body cameras would be implemented. Chief Kamleiter responded that our staff is on board, and we are ready to make the purchase. Trustee Hoag stated it looks like an appropriate capital fund budget. Trustee Bradley-Scott asked to clarify the improvements to the women's fire department locker room Bridget reminded the group that the larger Village Hall renovation project came in high last January and then COVID hit and everything was put on hold. We must address the condition of the Fire Department women's locker room and those renovations will be charged against that account. Long term, outside of routine maintenance, a larger discussion is warranted during the strategic planning process with the new village board. Trustee Mitros asked how old the jetter truck is. John responded that the current truck is seven years old, but we are spending a lot of money on contractor costs to hydro-excavate which is becoming more common because of the number of utilities in the ground, and the new truck will eliminate those contract costs. Trustee Mitros asked about the life for the generators. John said that we plan for 20 years but the current generator in Village Hall is original to the building, and the public works department does not have one.

No vote was required.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #5– 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

Mayor Braun referred to the Finance Committee – Presentation of Bills for Approval and Payment (March 1, 2021)

Trustee Lofton made a motion to ratify hand checks in the amount of \$1,285.93 and invoices in the amount of \$794,043.28 for a total of \$795,329.21. The motion was 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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Other Business:

Mayor Braun shared that CVS is now giving COVID-19 vaccines. They take appointments a week in advance. Residents can contact CVS directly or go on their website. SSMMA is also working on a larger vaccination event, but we continue to work on another mass vaccination site in addition to our local pharmacies.

Mayor Braun also said that the League of Women Voters is also hosting the virtual candidate forum on March 25 for mayoral candidates.

Village Attorney Kathi Orr reported on the Local Government Professional Services Solicitation Act. We will be using professional services for our bond project. When it comes to architects, engineers or surveyors, we cannot go out to bid. There is a prescribed process in the law that requires an RFQ process. Public Works Director John Brunke provided some additional detail on the current RFQ for engineering services.

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #4 on the Agenda: A Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss the Employment of Specific Individuals, Property Acquisition, and Litigation.

As there was a need to discuss the Employment of Specific Individuals Mayor Braun called for a motion to go into Executive Session. Trustee Bradley-Scott so moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley-Lofton and passed by a roll call vote.

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

The Board entered Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:35 p.m.

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, Lofton, Mitros, and Williams
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

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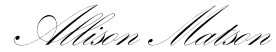
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The Regular Meeting ended at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allison Matson".

Allison Matson
Deputy Village Clerk