

*MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON JANUARY 18, 2022*

ZOOM MEETING

JANUARY 18, 2022

7:30 pm

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

Mayor Nelson took roll.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Village Manager Bridget Wachtel; Police Chief Tod Kamleiter; Fire Chief Bob Kopec; Director of Public Works John Brunke; Finance Director Scott Bordui; Building & Zoning Administrator Scott Bugner; Assistant Public Works Director Dan Milovanovic; Village Clerk Gina A. LoGalbo; Program & Event Coordinator Stephanie Wright; Communications Manager Amy Kent; 5 residents

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order. Mayor Nelson noted that the meeting was being held remotely via Zoom, consistent with Public Act 101-0640 and in accordance with the most recent Executive Order 2022-04 due to the current state of emergency in the State of Illinois given the surge in Coronavirus. Under the Executive Order, the requirement of the Open Meetings Act that the members of the public body be physically present is suspended for the duration of the disaster declaration, so long as the head of the public body has determined that an in-person meeting it is not prudent or practical given the state of the disaster.

Mayor Nelson stated that given the surge in the Coronavirus, it was not prudent to meet in person at this time. However, Village Manager Bridget Wachtel was present at Village Hall as required by remote meeting guidelines. For this meeting, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Flossmoor were meeting via Zoom as posted on the Village's website, identifying how the public may join.

Mayor Nelson noted that the meeting was being recorded, and that ensuring public access does not ensure public participation unless such participation is required by law. The meeting would feature public comment even if the members of the public do not provide public comment, participants are advised that people may be listening remotely who do not provide comment. Mayor Nelson requested that all those not speaking should please mute their phones and devices until they need to speak. Anything broadcasted could be picked up by the recording. Village staff may mute callers if background noise is disruptive. Further, each vote in tonight's meeting would be conducted by roll call vote.

Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Board:

Mayor Nelson stated that public comment would only be taken during this portion of the agenda. With the posting of the agenda, public comment was also encouraged by email to info@flossmoor.org, which would be shared with the Village Board.

Mayor Nelson asked if any citizens had sent comments via email at info@flossmoor.org. Village Manager Bridget Wachtel stated that no emails were submitted to info@flossmoor.org for presentation to the Board.

Mayor Nelson asked if there were citizens wishing to address the Board. Resident Vanessa Smith stated that an issue pertaining to her was on the agenda, and she wanted to note that she was present for it.

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Mayor Nelson stated that as she goes through the Agenda, she would ask each Trustee whether they had any questions or comments after the speaker had presented.

Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #1 – Resolution Honoring Juanita Mitchell. Mayor Nelson indicated that this item, a celebration of her 110th birthday, would be tabled until February due to a conflict with Ms. Mitchell's schedule. No vote was required.

Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #2 – Consideration of an Appointment to the Police Pension Board. Mayor Nelson called for a motion to approve the appointment of Maya Bordeaux to the Police Pension Board. Trustee Daggett so moved, seconded by Trustee Lofton. Mayor Nelson stated that Ms. Bordeaux has a JD, MBA, and is an HR executive with over twenty (20) years of experience managing pension plans and would be a perfect addition to the Police Pension Board. Mayor Nelson asked if there were any comments from the Board. All Trustees verbalized their support for Ms. Bordeaux's appointment. Mayor Nelson called for a vote on the motion as presented. Motion passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Nelson referred to the Consent Agenda (which encompassed Agenda Items 3-8):

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on December 20, 2021.
4. Presentation of Bills for Approval and Payment as Approved by the Finance Committee (January 18, 2022)
5. Consideration of an Ordinance of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Approving a Rezoning – 19725 Governors Highway
6. Consideration of an Ordinance of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Flossmoor Municipal Code Chapter 285, Articles 16 and 19, Sections 285-16-3 D. and 285-19-3 D. of the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Flossmoor, Illinois (Cannabis Dispensing Organizations)
7. Consideration of an Ordinance Granting a Variation from the Requirements of Section 285-21-1 F. (a) [2] of the Flossmoor Zoning Ordinance (1811 Hanover Lane)
8. Consideration of a Contract Amendment to the Street Rehabilitation Program Design Engineering Contract with Milhouse Engineering

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.

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

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 #9 – Consideration of an Agreement with Smith Dawson and Andrews. Mayor Nelson called for a motion to approve the Consideration of an Agreement with Smith Dawson and Andrews. Trustee Mustafa so moved, seconded by Trustee Lofton.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel stated that with the passage of the federal infrastructure bill that will invest in roads, bridges, and water systems, amongst other infrastructure, the Village would like to be well-positioned to receive funding through federal agencies and congressional set-asides. She noted that some other south suburbs have a long-established relationship with Smith Dawson and Andrews (“SDA”) to assist them with similar efforts and report that the firm has been helpful in bringing federal monies locally for large capital projects. The Mayor, Director of Public Works John Brunke, and Village Manager Bridget Wachtel met with Jim Smith and his team and were impressed with their approach in developing and advancing local agendas seeking funding as well as assistance with policy and legislation.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel stated that there would be opportunities for competitive grants through federal agencies and the likelihood of future congressional set-asides to invest in local districts over these next few years is worth consideration. Should the Village move forward, the SDA team and staff will review the Village’s capital projects and start aligning those with potential federal grant opportunities. These will be summarized in a document referred to as the Village of Flossmoor’s Federal Agenda. SDA will assist the Village with meetings with the IL congressional delegation and their staff and federal agencies as well as advancing Flossmoor’s projects with our federal representatives for their appropriation requests. She noted that if the Board agrees, a motion would be need to authorize the Mayor to enter into a one (1)-year agreement, pending Village attorney review, with SDA for federal lobbyist services for the scope of work outlined in the Board’s provided memo, and a budget amendment in the amount of \$20,000.00 to 01-41-4-632 to account for services through the end of Fiscal Year 2022.

Mayor Nelson stated that she was excited about SDA because of their results that they get for the South Suburbs and for their great relationships with our federal representatives. Jim Smith, the founder of SDA, has great relationships with Congresswoman Kelly, and Senators Durbin and Duckworth. [Village President] Rick Reinbold of Richton Park said that for every dollar they spend, they get back \$8.00 to \$13.00 in terms of grants and funds for projects. Mayor Nelson stated that there is an emphasis at a federal level on water projects, such as replacing lead lines and improving water mains and sewers which the Village needs. Receiving money at a federal level will help free up money for other capital projects.

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Trustee Daggett stated that he was in support of hiring SDA, and appreciated that they had experience and a diverse group to work with the Village.

Trustee Driscoll expressed his support for hiring SDA.

Trustee Mustafa asked whether SDA would help with the Village's strategic plan, and whether SDA would help with grant writing. Mayor Nelson stated that in terms of support for grants, the Village would do the writing of the grants. In regards to the strategic plan, Mayor Nelson stated that their services would help the Village maintain its infrastructure and freeing up dollars to spend other places. Village Manager Bridget Wachtel added that similarly, consulting engineers will often work directly with Public Works staff to put together grant applications. SDA would help Village staff put proposals together.

Trustee Lofton stated that SDA's diversity is important which will benefit the Village moving forward, and he supports them working for the Village.

Trustee Mitros stated that the Village has had success with other lobbying services and is thrilled that the Village is hiring SDA.

Trustee Bradley-Scott stated that she supports the proposal to hire SDA.

Mayor Nelson called for a vote on the motion as presented. Motion passed by a roll call vote.

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #10 – Discussion of a Festival on June 4, 2022 (Zip Code Day). Mayor Nelson introduced Tom Dobrez, President of Flossmoor's Future, to discuss plans for Zip Code Day. He stated that Flossmoor's Future is responsible for the annual Hidden Gem Half Marathon. He stated that the group has put together a concept for the event to celebrate Flossmoor, to bring in great entertainment for the people of Flossmoor, and to spotlight and showcase Flossmoor through the various Commissions and with Bike the Gem. The proposed event would last the entire day, and the goal would be to give it a festival-type feel.

Mr. Dobrez stated that he proposed a joint-venture between Flossmoor's Future and the Village which would be mutually beneficial. Flossmoor's Future consists of talented people who have put on other events including in Colorado. He stated that the event could provide an opportunity to gauge how Levitt Park performs as an event venue, and for Flossmoor to gauge handling larger events.

Mr. Dobrez stated that 6/04/22 would start with Bike the Gem, which would consist of three (3) different rides. The activities in Levitt Park would take place after the ride from 1 pm to 8 or 9 pm. The primary

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events would be a stage positioned in the ball field, with three (3) tribute bands performing. There could be other opportunities for entertainment, and for the Village Commissions, Trustees, and community representatives to speak. There would be games for children, and they would bring in food trucks which would be staged on Leavitt Avenue. Mr. Dobrez proposed blocking the Leavitt Avenue north of Central and south of Park Avenue. It would be a free event, except for some paid VIP access which would include a shaded area and t-shirts. Mr. Dobrez noted that he was meeting with the three (3) Flossmoor Commissions for them to think of ways they could contribute/ participate.

Mr. Dobrez noted that the estimated cost of the event is \$55,000.00 - \$60,000.00, with a cost of \$30,000.00 from the Village. There could be costs for public works, police, and fire which can be discussed with the individual departments. He stated that Flossmoor's Future would manage the event, from staffing, to planning, to contracts, working with the vendors and service providers, and marketing before, during and after the event. He stated that the rain location would be Flossmoor Park, but they may consider ones like Parker Junior High's parking lot or Sterling Avenue. He noted that the HF Park District has already approved the use of Leavitt Park, and that Flossmoor's Future has event insurance for events they host. They estimate 2,500 – 3,000 would come to the event. Mr. Dobrez stated that he has experience hosting a two (2)-day music fest in Colorado.

Trustee Driscoll stated his support for the planned event.

Trustee Mustafa asked about planned diversity for the event, including food, and suggested that diverse options be included. She suggested some other types of music be played at the event besides the proposed ones. She also inquired about what there would be for older teens and young adults. Mr. Dobrez responded that the plan for food trucks was to bring in a wide variety of food. He noted that he liked Trustee Mustafa's suggestion for other musical acts. He stated that as for the young adults, they are considering a smaller stage for acts that they like.

Trustee Lofton inquired about marketing and promotion efforts outside of Flossmoor. Mr. Dobrez stated that Flossmoor's Future would be focusing on attracting people from the Chicagoland area, and they would be pursuing grant money to help with promotion efforts like social media and billboards.

Trustee Mitros stated that he loves the idea of the event. However, he's concerned about the \$30,000.00+ in expenses, and inquired if that amount includes the man hours for the public works and police departments. He inquired about the VIP tickets, and whether Flossmoor restaurants would have a space to sell their food. Mr. Drobez stated that the VIP tickets would cost between \$50.00 to \$75.00 per person and would include access to a tented area and receive a souvenir like a t-shirt or mug, and special parking. He stated that Flossmoor restaurants would be able to sell food.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel noted that Flossmoor Fest data shows that the Village's cost in personnel overtime was about \$15,000.00.

Trustee Bradley-Scott complimented Flossmoor's Future past events. She inquired whether Flossmoor's Future would go back to the Village for more money if the \$30,000.00 wasn't enough for the event. She

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inquired about plans for rain on the day of the event. Mr. Dobrez stated that the group would not go back to the Village for more money. Mr. Dobrez stated that if the event had to be canceled, there would be some loss for the events and stage deposits.

Trustee Daggett thanked Flossmoor's Future for their events that have brought attention and awareness for Flossmoor. He likes everything about the event, but he is concerned about Leavitt Park having standing water/ mud that could be a safety issue with electric equipment. He also liked the idea of a side stage for the younger demographic.

Village Clerk Gina LoGalbo inquired about bike parking after Bike the Gem. Mr. Dobrez stated that the bike parking would be on Central near the smaller part of Leavitt, and they would have a 'bike check.'

Mayor Nelson stated that the Board was generally in favor of supporting the event, but that the Board wanted to have a better idea of the costs associated with the public works, police, and fire departments.

Mr. Dobrez stated that Flossmoor's Future has \$7,000.00 budgeted for police that they will likely not need, and that he feels confident that the \$30,000.00 from the Village would be the total amount. In response to Trustee Mustafa's question about sponsorships, Flossmoor's Future believes that they could receive more than their estimates, and they think that beer sales may be more than projected.

Trustee Mitros suggested selling bands in order to purchase alcohol, and suggested that the amount of the Village's cost be capped.

Discussion ensued regarding the potential costs of public works department employees working the event.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel suggested that the Village's Brew Fest could be postponed to free up money, and that we would likely need a budget amendment to account for the Village's costs. The Board agreed with not hosting Brew Fest in 2022 so that we could host the Zip Code Festival.

No vote was required.

Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #11 – 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.

Mayor Nelson asked if there were any other business.

Trustee Mustafa commended the Village for expanding diverse events, including Chinese New Year.

Trustee Daggett stated that he appreciates the efforts going into land acquisition and zoning changes in the Village.

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Mayor Nelson thanked Village Manager Bridget Wachtel for her efforts to make Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day go very well. She also thanked Marcus, Stephanie, and Amy for making the Village's efforts go smoothly and for marketing efforts. Mayor Nelson commended the CRC and Village Staff for their efforts with building bunk beds. She commended SD161, and volunteers from HF High School and Marion Catholic for volunteering as well as other groups in the HF community. She commended volunteers from all over the Southland who volunteered on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s day of service.

Mayor Nelson stated that a Chinese New Year celebration would take place at the end of January.

Mayor Nelson noted that the new resident event would be on April 9th.

Mayor Nelson stated that the ice rinks in Flossmoor were a lot of fun, that there was a successful event held there recently, and she thanked Wiley's for participating in the event.

Mayor Nelson promoted a HF Baseball Booster fundraiser on January 29th.

Village Clerk Gina A. LoGalbo stated that she enjoyed participating in the Sleep in Heavenly Peace event, and commended Mayor Nelson and Village staff for accomplishing the demolition of the former Ken Norman property.

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 Daggett. Mayor Nelson called for a vote on the motion as presented. Motion passed by a roll call vote.

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

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Gina A. LoGalbo
Village Clerk