

MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON JULY 21, 2025

VILLAGE HALL

JULY 21, 2025

7:00 PM

Mayor Nelson announced and invited everyone to attend the upcoming Chamber Night at Flossmoor Commons on July 24, 2025, and also asked everyone to support Flossmoor's Public Art Commission by participating in the silent art auction being held at the event.

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Assistant Village Manager Jonathan Bogue took roll. There was a quorum.

PRESENT: Mayor Nelson and Trustees Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers

ABSENT: Trustee Daggett

ALSO PRESENT:

Bridget Wachtel, Village Manager	John Brunke, Director of Public Works
Jonathan Bogue, Asst Village Manager	Dan Milovanovic, Asst Director of Public Works
Carl Estelle, Chief of Police	Scott Bugner, Director of Building & Zoning
Bob Kopec, Fire Chief	Nicole Castagna, Asst to the Village Mgr./Communications Mgr.
Ann Novoa, Finance Director	87 Community Members, Media and Others
Malea Calvert, Asst Finance Director	
Joe Miller, Village Attorney	

GENERAL STATEMENT/RULES OF ORDER (Announced by Mayor Nelson):

The meeting was streamed via Zoom. Mayor Nelson reviewed the public comment policy, which is available on the Village website.

RECOGNITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

Agenda Item #2 – Introduction and Swearing in of Police Officer Anoribe Nwannewuihe
Chief Estelle introduced Police Officer Anoribe Nwannewuihe. Assistant Village Manager Bogue conducted the swearing-in of Officer Nwannewuihe to the Flossmoor Police Department.

Agenda Item #1 – Introduction and Swearing in of Deputy Chief Douglas Merkle
Chief Estelle introduced Deputy Chief Douglas Merkle. Assistant Village Manager Bogue conducted the swearing in of Sergeant Merkle to the position of Deputy Chief with the Flossmoor Police Department.

Mayor Nelson thanked the family members, members of the police department, and all those who came to celebrate the appointment of these police officers to their respective positions with the police department.

Agenda Item #3 - Appointments to the Police Pension Board

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to re-appoint Clint Wagner and Tim Hammond to the Police Pension Board. Trustee Mustafa and Trustee Lofton were the first and second for this motion. A vote on the motion was presented and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers

ABSENT: Trustee Daggett

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ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

Agenda Item #4: Appointment and Swearing in of Village Clerk

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to appoint Cecil Porter as Village Clerk. Trustee Mitros and Trustee Rodgers were the first and second for this motion. A vote on the motion was presented and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers

ABSENT: Trustee Daggett

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

Mayor Nelson introduced Cecil Porter and conducted his swearing in, following which he took his seat as Village Clerk.

Mayor Nelson thanked everyone who came to the meeting and invited all to view the artwork that was on display for the Flossmoor Public Art Commission's upcoming silent auction as they left the meeting.

PUBLIC PRESENT WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

(Note: That in reporting these comments, the Village has not researched the accuracy of any comments.)

1. Stacie and Edward Gass – Flossmoor residents

Presented concerns about a house in their neighborhood that has been hosting disruptive parties. They expressed their gratitude for being contacted by Mayor Nelson regarding this issue and also expressed their appreciation to Chief Estelle and the police department for the proactive steps they took to successfully stop the most recent party.

2. Ms. Stephanie Poole-Byrd and Bradley Byrd – Flossmoor residents

Discussed parking and ticketing issues at the Metra North Parking Lot that have come up recently because of Flossmoor's downtown renovation project. Mayor Nelson requested that any parking tickets, that were a result of this issue, be sent to her and that commuters reach out to info@flossmoor.org with any concerns. Mayor Nelson explained how the Village was trying to balance the needs of commuters with the needs of businesses during the construction project and said that the Village staff would immediately review these parking issues.

3. Mr. Warren Engelberg – Flossmoor Resident

Offered commentary and opinions about the negative impact that federal healthcare policies have had on women and children, and also on Planned Parenthood.

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4. Ms. Andrea Perry – Flossmoor Resident

Offered commentary and criticisms about how promotions are made in the police department. Village Attorney Miller responded to Ms. Perry and provided information about the process for how the Police Chief appoints the Deputy Chief of Police.

5. Ms. Molly DeGauw – Flossmoor Resident

Provided commentary about the wonderful experiences she has had living in her neighborhood of Old Flossmoor and how it is an open and diverse community. She expressed her happiness about seeing LGBTQ+ representation on the Village board.

There were no further public comments. Mayor Nelson requested Chief Estelle to provide information regarding the party that had been discussed by Stacie and Edward Gass at the beginning of the public comment session of the meeting.

Chief Estelle provided a detailed summary of how the police department became aware of this party, the potential problems it could have caused for residents, and the extensive measures Flossmoor's police department took to prevent it from occurring in our village. He also provided information about how the police department communicated its prevention efforts with residents and neighboring communities.

Village Manager Wachtel discussed that house rentals and pool rentals for parties are not permissible under Flossmoor's zoning code, that these types of rentals are becoming a trend, and she asked that residents notify the police if they learn about these types of events. Trustee Mustafa asked about what happens when a residence has multiple violations for parties. Village Attorney Miller indicated that his office knows this is becoming a problem, and they are reviewing how to address these types of situations through code enforcement.

Chief Estelle was thanked by Mayor Nelson, Trustee Mitros and Village Attorney Miller for the proactive steps the police department took to stop this event. Village Attorney Miller expressed appreciation for how the police department also took steps to stop this event from relocating to neighboring communities.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve the **Consent Agenda Items 5-14**. Trustee Mitros so moved, Trustee Mustafa seconded.

A vote on the motion was presented and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers
ABSENT: Trustee Daggett
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS:

Mayor Nelson expressed thanks to the Flossmoor Green Commission for planting the vegetable garden with the students at Homewood-Flossmoor High School and also invited everyone to attend the Flossmoor Art Commission's upcoming sculpture tour on July 30, 2025, that will feature some of the new sculptures.

ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items presented.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no discussion items presented.

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item #15: A Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss the Employment of Specific Individuals, Property Acquisition, and Litigation

Mayor Nelson stated there was no need to go into Executive Session.

1. Trustee Mustafa:

Question #1: Inquiry about the status of cameras in the retention basin. Assistant Village Manager Bogue stated that he was in contact with Superintendent Smith for School District 161, the school district was not interested in fronting the cost for this type of expense and said that Flossmoor would need to pay for cameras if they wanted cameras in the retention basin.

Question #2: Inquiry about the recent purchase of street signs and whether this purchase was related to the request for new street signs made by a resident during the last board meeting. Public Works stated that these street sign replacements were already part of their scheduled standard/annual street sign replacements for this year. Trustee Mustafa thanked them for their good work.

2. Trustee Rodgers: No questions/comments

3. Trustee Dorsey: No questions/comments

4. Trustee Lofton:

Complimented the police department for their proactive efforts and the excellent work they are doing for the Village.

5. Trustee Mitros: No questions/comments

6. Village Clerk Porter:

Expressed thanks and appreciation for the opportunity to serve as Village Clerk.

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7. Village Attorney Miller:

Provided further comments to Flossmoor resident, A. Perry, about the Deputy Police Chief appointment by the Police Chief to clarify his earlier statements.

8. Village Manager Wachtel: No questions/comments

Mayor Nelson further announced:

- Flossmoor's Chamber Night is coming up on July 24, 2025, with music from local groups, an after-party with a jazz theme, and is located at Flossmoor Commons.
- The Village's FEMA grant for the purchase of flood-prone property on Western Avenue that has suffered repetitive loss is no longer frozen and has been released through the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. This grant will cover the expenses of removing the existing structures at this location.
- Next week is the 35th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and it has provided many benefits to our residents and has made our communities more accessible.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Mayor Nelson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Lofton. All were in favor, none opposed.

AYES: Trustees, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers
ABSENT: Daggett
ABSTAIN: None
NAYS: None

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cecil E. Porter
Village Clerk