

APPROVED MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON AUGUST 4,
2025

VILLAGE HALL

August 4, 2025

7:00 PM

Mayor Nelson opened the meeting with a reminder to “Shop Local” and support Flossmoor businesses, especially those in the downtown area, during the renovation project.

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Village Clerk Porter took roll. There was a quorum.

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

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT:

Bridget Wachtel, Village Manager	Douglas Merkle, Deputy Chief of Police
Jonathan Bogue, Asst Village Manager	John Brunke, Director of Public Works
Bob Kopec, Fire Chief	Dan Milovanovic, Asst Director of Public Works
Joe Miller, Village Attorney	Scott Bugner, Director of Building & Zoning
	14 Community Members, Media, and Others

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.

PUBLIC PRESENT WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

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

1. Warren Engelberg – Flossmoor resident:

Presented commentary and his opinions about the impact of the current federal government administration on women, children, and those experiencing economic hardship.

2. Jackie Riffice – Flossmoor resident:

Presented information about her book club. The book club meets at The Rock Shop in Homewood, Illinois and is open to the public.

3. Andrea Perry – Flossmoor Resident:

Offered commentary and her criticisms about how promotions and employment terminations are made in the police department.

There were no further public comments.

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RECOGNITIONS AND APPOINTMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve **Consent Agenda Items 1-4**. Trustee Mitros so moved, Trustee Lofton seconded. Mayor Nelson asked if there were any items on the consent agenda that were requested to be removed, and there were none.

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

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS:

Mayor Nelson expressed thanks for the work done by the following commissions:

- a. Flossmoor's Public Art Commission for its sculpture tour, noting the outstanding attendance and the positive feedback from those in attendance.
- b. Flossmoor's Public Art Commission and Flossmoor's Green Commission for their support of Chamber Night by having an art fundraiser and passing out native plants at the event.
- c. Flossmoor's Community Relations Commission for the "Christmas in July Toy Drive" program that they started, and those who donated to this program.

ACTION ITEMS

Agenda Item #5. – Consideration of an Ordinance of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Village of Flossmoor and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago for the Acquisition, Ownership, Maintenance, and Conversion to Open Space of Flood-Prone Real Property Located Near Butterfield Creek in Flossmoor, Illinois.

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve this action item. Trustee Mustafa so moved, Trustee Daggett seconded.

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John Brunke, Director of Public Works, presented an overview regarding the funding for this program and discussed the following: the reasons necessary to buy out this property (based on extensive flooding), the future demolition of the property, and potential open space uses for the property once the structures were demolished. Mr. Brunke also gave reasons why the Village should act now to pass this ordinance, primarily because the homeowner is willing to participate and FEMA grant funds are still available to complete the work. Mr. Brunke recommends that the Village approve this action item.

The property owners were present. Mayor Nelson gave information about the extensive work performed by John Brunke and Village Manager Wachtel with state and federal representatives to secure funding for this project, and how it is necessary for this project to be approved now, while grant funding is still available.

Mayor Nelson asked the board if there were any comments. The following board members provided feedback in support of this project:

1. Trustee Rodgers: No comments/questions. She noted that she drives past this property and is familiar with it.
2. Trustee Mustafa: Shares Mayor Nelson's empathy with the property owners, especially since she had considered purchasing it when it was last for sale. She asked about having items in the home repurposed for other uses.
3. Trustee Mitros: Inquired about whether the previous owners had disclosed the flooding issues, and the property owners advised that they had not been given information about flooding problems. Trustee Mitros stated how familiar he is with this property, agreed it had to be vacated, and inquired about whether access was available to the property for recreational purposes once the existing structures were demolished. He also expressed his gratitude to the property owners.
4. Trustee Lofton: Wished good luck to the property owners in moving on and inquired about the adjacent properties. Mr. Brunke indicated that the adjacent properties are vacant and not part of this program; however, the Village acquired the two adjacent parcels to the north as part of the No Cash Bid Program. Mr. Brunke also commented that this area along Butterfield Creek is part of a larger flood mitigation study for Butterfield Creek, and these parcels could be used for dedicated stormwater storage in the future.
5. Trustee Dorsey: Agrees that the timing to approve this project is now, and applauded John Brunke and his team for their work on this project. He also wished the property owners all the best.
6. Trustee Daggett: Provided information about property reclamation companies being available to repurpose items. Mr. Brunke advised that any repurposing of items needs to be done before the demolition takes place and responded to Trustee Daggett's questions about the appraisal process and zoning for the property. Trustee Daggett also expressed his appreciation to the property owners and his support for the project.

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

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Item #6. – 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 for an executive session.

Additional comments:

1. Trustee Mustafa: Stated she contacted David Linnear, President of School District 161, to inquire about surveillance cameras being installed at the Heather Hill detention basin, and that Mr. Linnear told her that he would raise the discussion again with the new school board. Trustee Mustafa requested that, since the village board is also new, this issue be put back on the agenda again to see if the village board and school board can reach a joint/shared resolution. Mayor Nelson stated that the board could be polled to see if there is interest in adding this to the agenda.
2. Trustee Mitros: Reminded everyone to attend Flossmoor's National Night Out. He also stated that he is not in favor of revisiting the issue of surveillance cameras at the Heather Hill detention basin.
3. Trustee Lofton: He is open to discussing surveillance cameras at the Heather Hill detention basin again since it is being discussed by the school board, and since some residents continue to view this as a concern.
4. Trustee Dorsey: Stated he has lots of questions regarding the issue of surveillance cameras at the Heather Hill detention basin, including potential privacy concerns, and that this should be a joint discussion and shared decision with the school board. Mayor Nelson asked if it would be beneficial for him to review the meeting minutes and presentation from when this was last discussed by the Village Board, and he agreed this would be helpful before having future discussions.
5. Trustee Daggett: Would like to see the outcome of the school board discussion regarding surveillance cameras at the Heather Hill detention basin before giving further input. Trustee Daggett provided information about the punch card program that is being used to boost shopping at local downtown

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businesses. As a further incentive, for those who complete their shopping punch card, he is offering to raffle a Lake Michigan excursion on his sailboat. Trustee Daggett provided information about how the downtown development project is rooted in safety. He invited everyone to the upcoming Parker softball game to support the team that he coaches.

6. Trustee Rodgers: She is in agreement on discussing surveillance cameras at the Heather Hill detention basis and believes that not having surveillance cameras is a potential safety concern.

7. Clerk Porter: No comments/questions

8. Village Attorney Miller: No comments/questions

9. Village Manager Wachtel: No comments/questions

Mayor Nelson further announced:

- Flossmoor's National Night Out is coming up on August 5, 2025, and the event is for all ages.
- On August 9, 2025, there is a ribbon-cutting for Beyond Borders Café, and all are invited to join. This is a new business opened by Flossmoor residents in the downtown area.
- The Hidden Gem Half Marathon is coming up in one month. It has, for two years in a row, won the Chicago Area Runners Association's "Race of the Year," and Flossmoor is hoping to win this award for a third consecutive year. If anyone has questions regarding the race, they should contact the Hidden Gem Half Marathon or info@flossmoor.org

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

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

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

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cecil E. Porter
Village Clerk