

MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS  
HELD ON MAY 18, 2026

VILLAGE HALL

May 18, 2026

7:00 PM

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:**

Ann Novoa, Finance Director	Carl Estelle, Chief of Police
John Brunke, Public Works Director	Bob Kopec, Fire Chief
Bridget Wachtel, Village Manager	Nicole Castagna, Asst to Vlg Mgr/Comm. Mgr.
Jonathan Bogue, Asst. Village Mgr.	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 # 1: A Proclamation Declaring May 2026 as Jewish American Heritage Month**

Mayor Nelson recognized May as Jewish American Heritage Month and issued a proclamation honoring the contributions Jewish Americans have made to the nation and our local communities. The proclamation was accepted by Rabbi Carmit Harari from the congregation Shir Tikvah in Homewood, Illinois.

**Agenda Item #2: A Proclamation Declaring May 17-23, 2026 as National Public Works Week**

Mayor Nelson recognized May 17 – 23, 2026 as the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Works Week to recognize the work that Public Works does to sustain and improve Village infrastructure, facilities, and services for the benefit of all residents. The proclamation was accepted by John Brunke, Director of Public Works.

**PUBLIC WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** None

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**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve **Consent Agenda Items #3-8**. Trustee Mustafa so moved, Trustee Dorsey seconded. Mayor Nelson asked if there were any items on the Consent Agenda that were requested to be removed for discussion, 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 stated there were no formal reports from the Commissions and announced that Flossmoor's Public Art Commission extended its deadline for submissions to June 7, 2026, for its upcoming auction fundraiser (<https://www.artflossmoor.com/>).

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Agenda Item #9: Consideration of an Award of Contract for the Flossmoor Library Floor Rehabilitation**

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to approve **Action Item #9**. Trustee Daggett so moved, Trustee Mustafa seconded.

This action item was presented by Village Manager Wachtel, who provided the history and background about the investigation into the sinkhole at the west side of the library facility that the Village learned about in February of 2025. Village Manager Wachtel discussed the library building ownership, the extensive investigation into the cause of the sinkhole and the results of that investigation. Director Brunke and experts retained by the Village concluded that the clay soil used to backfill the site in 2003/2004, which has now dried out and shrunk, is the root cause of the problem. This cause is not covered by insurance. Director Brunke noted that the cost of the repair could be between \$43,000 and \$50,000 to address all the voids identified in the survey. The Village has not historically budgeted for building repairs to the Library. Should the Village assume the full cost of the work, the money would either come from fund balance or at the expense of another Village operation (i.e., services like \$50,000 less in sidewalk repairs or parkway tree trimming, or a capital asset purchase equivalent to one squad car). The Village attorney was consulted and advised that under the Intergovernmental Agreement (hereafter "IGA") between the

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Village and the Library, it is the Library that is responsible for paying out of pocket for this type of expense. The Library's GASB 54 disclosures show \$1.9 million in fund balance (page 97 in the FY27 budget), and FY 27 expenditures total \$1.8 million. Through the GASB 54 disclosures, the Library has committed \$617,532 toward unassigned major exterior repair and building maintenance, and another \$282,884 in unassigned major interior repair and building maintenance. These monies are in addition to another \$475,013 in unassigned fund balance.

Village Manager Wachtel asked for questions from the Board. The Board engaged in lengthy back-and-forth discussions with Library Board President, Natasha Bergeron, Library Executive Director Jamie Paicely, and Village Attorney Miller, about who was responsible for paying for these repairs. This discussion focused on the following topics: (a) The purpose and intent of the IGA; (b) The roles and responsibilities of the Village and the Library under the longstanding terms of IGA; (c) Attorney Miller's legal research, and ultimate conclusions that, pursuant to the longstanding and agreed upon terms of the IGA that it is the Library that has 100% financial responsibility for these repairs; (d) Representations by Bergeron and Paicely about how the Library's attorney, who was not present, told them that the Village should pay for the repairs; (e) The Library having more than enough of its own financial resources to pay for 100% of all of the anticipated costs and expenses associated with the repairs; (f) Trustee Daggett's suggestion that the Village and the Library share the costs and expenses as a compromise; and (g) How the Village would have to amend the budget it recently passed, and make a decision on what services and capital projects to cut from its budget, if it agreed to the Library's request to pay for these repairs. There was also much discussion about how the Library has accumulated an incredibly large surplus of funds, and how the Library should be using these surplus funds.

A vote on the Motion was presented and by a unanimous roll call vote, the Motion did not pass.

AYES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: Trustees Daggett, Dorsey, Lofton, Mitros, Mustafa, and Rodgers

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**Agenda Item #10: Discussion to Permanently Make a No Left Turn from Eastbound Flossmoor Road onto Northbound Braemar Road**

This discussion item was presented by Police Chief Estelle, who discussed why this request, to permanently make a no left turn from eastbound Flossmoor Road onto Northbound Braemar Road,

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was for safety reasons. Chief Police Estelle stated there are numerous “close calls” and “near misses” with drivers and pedestrians throughout the day at this turn. He wants to start the discussion with the Board, residents, and the school district to explore ways to make the traffic pattern safer for all residents. Mayor Nelson asked the Board for questions and comments for Chief Estelle on this proposal. The Board responded with comments about the following: (a) Praise for Chief Estelle for recognizing unsafe traffic patterns and taking action to implement changes to make the Village roads safer; (b) Suggestions for other traffic control devices; (c) The traffic pattern at Parker Junior High; and (d) Potential ways to direct bus traffic and school traffic around Parker Junior High.

The discussion concluded with the Board giving unanimous consent to Chief Estelle to move forward with exploring this discussion item.

Mayor Nelson stated the Board needed to have an Executive Session, and before doing so, asked if there was any other business. The Board responded as follows:

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Trustee Rodgers:** Recognized Finance Director Ann Novoa for successfully negotiating the Village’s health insurance premiums, and gave thanks to the police department for evaluating safety concerns on Village streets that are near schools.

**Trustee Mustafa:** Expressed thanks for the addition of “Land Jacks” by Jason Verbeek (<https://www.artflossmoor.com/collection?lightbox=dataItem-lah33c45>) to the Village’s permanent sculpture collection.

**Trustee Mitros:** Recognized the Village team for keeping health insurance rates down.

**Trustee Lofton:** Shoutout to Flossmoor Service League for a successful house walk.

**Trustee Dorsey:** Praised Finance Director Ann Novoa on her successful negotiations on the Village’s health insurance plan.

**Trustee Daggett:** Expressed thanks to Public Works for the tree removal efforts and pothole patching. Congratulated the police department for its successful “Cop on the Rooftop” program.

**Village Clerk Porter:** No comments.

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**Village Attorney Miller:** No comments.

**Village Manager Wachtel:** Provided an update on the Village's downtown landscaping and reported that this is expected to be completed by the end of May.

**Mayor Nelson further announced the following:**

- This week is National EMS Week. Gave thanks to Fire Chief Kopec for his leadership and the EMS department for their hard work.
- The Village's Memorial Day Taps Across America is at 3 p.m. on Monday at the flagpole at Village Hall
- Pride Fest is June 12<sup>th</sup> from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Flossmoor Park.  
(<https://flossmoor.org/m/newsflash/home/detail/866>)
- The Juneteenth parade is the morning of June 19<sup>th</sup>, with a festival to follow in the commuter parking lot. (<https://hfjuneteenthfestival.com/>)

**Agenda Item #v11. A Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss the Employment of Specific Individuals, Property Acquisition, and Litigation**

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to go into Executive Session. Trustee Mustafa so moved, Trustee Dorsey seconded.

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

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The Board went into Executive Session at 8:39 p.m. The Board returned from Executive Session at approximately 9:24 p.m.

Mayor Nelson called for a Motion to Adjourn the meeting. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Rodgers. 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 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cecil E. Porter  
Village Clerk