

MINUTES OF MAYOR BRAUN AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON NOVEMBER 16, 2020

VILLAGE HALL

NOVEMBER 16<sup>th</sup> 2020

7:30pm

*Mayor Braun called the meeting to order at 7:34pm.*

*Village Clerk Ananda Billings took roll.*

*PRESENT: Mayor Braun, Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Lofton, 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, Deputy Chief of Police Clint Wagner, Assistant Public Works Director Dan Milovanovic, Fire Chief Greg Berk; Village Attorney Kathi Orr*

*CITIZENS PRESENT: Mayor Braun requested that any citizens who wished to identify themselves do so, along with their address for the Village Clerk.*

*Dr. Lakshmi Emory, Michelle Nelson, and Margaret Hagerman identified themselves on the call.*

*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 pursuant to public act 2020-0640, the requirement of the members of the public body to be physically present has been suspended so long as it is not practical or prudent due to the state of emergency in Illinois and the outbreak of COVID-19. Mayor Braun believes it is not practical or prudent to allow in person gatherings due to the coronavirus pandemic, however Village Manager Wachtel will be present at the Village Hall for the meeting this evening. 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 November 2, 2020*

*Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further changes or comments. He called for a motion to approve the minutes of November 2, 2020. Trustee Bradley-Scott so moved, seconded by Trustee Driscoll and passed by a roll call vote.*

*AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Hoag, Lofton, and Williams*

*ABSENT: Mitros*

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ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Board

Prior to the Board meeting, resident Michelle Nelson submitted a comment via email. Assistant Village Manager Allison Matson read the comment which asked the Police Department to omit the blue line graphic from the supervisor vehicle on the agenda for replacement.

Mayor Braun commented that we might not be able to address this issue on the current cars due to the cost this will entail; however, this note will be directed to the Police Department for their consideration on future cars.

Carrie Malfeo of the Green Commission informed the Board of the results of the Pumpkin Smash. There were 27 cars and 101 pumpkins that were diverted from landfill and will be composted at a plant nursery in Monee.

The Mayor referred to Agenda Item #1- A Resolution Endorsing the Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Assistant Village Manager, Allison Matson, addressed the Board. According to the National Wildlife Federation, the population of the monarch butterfly, which migrates over several lifecycles from Mexico to Canada and back each year, has declined by more than 90 percent over the past 20 years, mostly due to the disappearance of its habitat, specifically the milkweed plant, which is the only plant upon which a monarch butterfly will lay its eggs. Green Commission member Phil DeSantis is on the call to provide more information.

Mr. DeSantis presented background on the pledge and the action items needed to proceed. Staff is supportive of this initiative and will work with the Commission to identify places where milkweed can be planted on public property, as well as support the promotional action items through our communications channels.

Mayor Braun asked why there is such a decrease in population and the answer is that it is primarily due to loss of habitat. Mayor Braun noted that he sees no downside to this effort and believes it is a nice way to keep our sustainability pledge.

Trustee Bradley-Scott inquired as to what the expectation is for when we will be able to see the results of this effort. Mr. DeSantis responded that although we cannot be certain as to how long it will take to see a renewal of the butterflies, the state of Illinois is set to plant over 100 million stems of milkweed.

Trustee Driscoll wants to be sure that this does not create additional issues down the line as he has adjudicated cases where neighbors have conflicts over the height of prairie plants and inquired if this program targets public or private lands. The answer was that we should do what is right for Flossmoor, to be sure we do not have weeds or lawns out of control. It is up to Flossmoor to decide what ordinances they wish to adapt or enact. Village Attorney Kathi Orr commented that this would not supersede our current ordinances.

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Ms. Matson also noted that we would look at best practices where other communities have adopted this previously and look to see what would work in Flossmoor.

Trustee Hoag inquired if the Green Commission will own these actions or if Village Staff will need to monitor them. Mr. DeSantis responded that the Green Commission will own the actions and report back to the Board and Village Staff.

Trustee Lofton asked if milkweed attracts other insects. The response was that as a part of the plan, there would be a recommendation for what type of milkweed would work the best.

Trustee Williams thanked the Green Commission and wants to be sure we can increase the number of butterflies to this area and is supportive of the plan. She also requested that we continue to give homeowners associations the right to manage this process for their associations.

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further changes or comments. He called for a motion to approve the Resolution Endorsing the Mayor's Monarch Pledge as presented. Trustee Bradley-Scott so moved, seconded by Trustee Williams, and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Items #2 and #3: Consideration of a Resolution of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Approving an Economic Incentive Agreement' Grant (Flossmoor Station Restaurant and Brewery) and Consideration of a Resolution of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Approving an Economic Incentive Agreement Grant (Bistro on Sterling)

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel presented items 2 and 3 for the Board's consideration regarding economic incentives to support our local restaurants during the winter months. These are two economic development grants. Our restaurants are struggling with the restriction on indoor dining which will be compounded with cold weather. Both Flossmoor Station Brewery and the Bistro on Sterling have approached the Village for assistance. The grant for the brewery will be in the amount of \$3,600 for the cost of a tent and heater and the grant to the Bistro will be in the amount of \$1,000 for the cost of a heater.

Mayor Braun commented that this is the best way for the Village to support our local restaurant businesses and will be evaluated in January.

Trustee Williams emphasized her support of this matter and inquired if other restaurants, including Dunning's would be also supported in a similar fashion. Ms. Wachtel responded that Dunning's is currently carry-out only at this time and has not asked for additional assistance, nor have the restaurants on Vollmer Road. Mayor Braun said that if other businesses ask for help the Village is open to assisting.

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Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further questions and as they did not, he called for a motion to approve the resolution of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Approving an Economic Incentive Agreement Grant (Flossmoor Station Restaurant Brewery), as presented. Trustee Driscoll so moved, seconded by Trustee Lofton and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun called for a motion to approve the Resolution of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Approving an Economic Incentive Agreement Grant (Bistro on Sterling) Trustee Williams so moved, seconded by Trustee Lofton and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda #4: Consideration of the Replacement of a Supervisor Squad Vehicle

Deputy Police Chief Wagner addressed the Board to present the need for a replacement patrol vehicle. He informed the Board that the 2014 Chevrolet Tahoe supervisor patrol vehicle which has been in service for approximately six years is in need of replacement. The vehicle is on a five-year replacement schedule and has been deferred twice extending its service life. This vehicle has had numerous additional repairs outside of normal maintenance such as power steering, coolant, engine mounts and transmission mounts, and odd tire wear. This vehicle has reached its life expectancy, and the Village Mechanic recommends replacing this vehicle as soon as possible to avoid additional expenses and maximize trade-in value.

The police department compared competitive bids from the State of Illinois Government Contract Pricing and the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative. Some of the police equipment from the 2014 Tahoe will transfer to the new 2021 Tahoe which reduces our up-fitting cost.

The total cost for the purchase, minus trade-in allowance, plus up-fitting for the supervisor vehicle will be approximately \$36,434.32. This is \$3,325.68 under the allotted budget amount. Staff is requesting the Village Board authorize the purchase the 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4 Police vehicle form Currie Motors through the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative in the amount of \$38,546.42 and trade-in the 2014 Chevrolet Tahoe in the amount of \$10,500, and up-fit the new vehicle for \$8,387.90

Mayor Braun noted that the Village has a replacement schedule for all vehicles and this particular vehicle has been extended twice previously. Trustee Williams commented that this is following a good deal of accounting principles that emphasize save and then spend. The Village has held onto these principles for years.

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Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further questions and as they did not, he called for a motion to approve the Replacement of a Supervisor Squad Vehicle. Trustee Bradley-Scott so moved, seconded by Trustee Lofton and passed by a roll call vote.

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

Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #5: Designation of Board Meetings for 2021

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel addressed the Board. She noted that this is a housekeeping item to approve the proposed list of Board meetings for 2021. Once approved, a notice of these meetings dates and locations must be posted at the Village Hall and on the website. This is in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further questions and as they did not, he called for a motion to approve the schedule of Board Meetings for 2021 as presented. Trustee Williams so moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley-Scott and passed by a roll call vote.

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

The Mayor Referred to Agenda Item #6: Considering of an Ordinance Granting Emergency Powers to The Mayor of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois

This is the renewal of the ordinance granting emergency powers to the Mayor of the Village of Flossmoor during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mayor Braun asked the Board if they had any further questions and as they did not, he called for a motion to approve the Consideration of an Ordinance Granting Emergency Powers to The Mayor of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois as presented. Trustee Bradley-Scott so moved, seconded by Trustee Driscoll and passed by a roll call vote.

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

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*Mayor Braun referred to the Finance Committee – Presentation of Bills for Approval and Payment (November 16th, 2020)*

*Trustee Williams made a motion to approve hand checks in the amount of \$456.98 and invoices in the amount of \$342,665.83 for a total of \$343,122.81. The motion was seconded by Trustee Driscoll and passed by a roll call vote.*

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

Other Business:

*Mayor Braun has been asked to serve on the Metropolitan Mayor's COVID task force. This is a council of government composed of over 270 Mayors, including Chicago. Mayor Braun serves on the executive committee of this group. The purpose of this group is to partner within the community to provide transparency and information on the pandemic to the community as well as to try to improve communications with the Governor's office. They are working to put together common-sense steps to help mitigate the COVID pandemic.*

*He then noted if we take common sense precautions we will hopefully be on track to a healthier tomorrow and be able to support our community and open up normal business sooner rather than later.*

*Mayor Braun then thanked the community for overwhelmingly voting to pass the Streets and Sidewalk Bond referendum. He thanked the Board and Staff for working hard on the effort and for educating the community.*

*The Village received a grant to secure a \$1.5M grant for the downtown flooding project which will be of utmost value in our effort to mitigate flooding and help us utilize our bond referendum dollars to the best capacity. Mayor Braun thanked Staff for their hard work in obtaining this grant.*

*Ms. Wachtel noted that next Wednesday, November 18 is the next One Book, One Flossmoor book discussion.*

*Village Attorney Kathi Orr noted that the IPO is sponsoring a movie and dinner through Dunning's and hopes that the community will support this effort.*

*Mayor Braun and each Trustee wished Staff, the Board, and the community a very Happy and Safe Thanksgiving.*

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Mayor Braun referred to Agenda Item #7 on the Agenda: A Motion to go into Executive Session to Discuss the Employment of Specific Individuals, Property Acquisition, and Litigation.

There was no need to go into Executive Session therefore no vote was required.

As there were no other items to discuss, Mayor Braun called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Bradley-Scott so moved, seconded by Trustee Driscoll and passed by a roll call vote.

AYES: Trustees Bradley-Scott, Driscoll, Lofton, and Williams

ABSENT: Mitros, Hoag

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

The Regular Meeting ended at 8:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ananda Billings*

Ananda Billings  
Village Clerk