

*MINUTES OF MAYOR NELSON AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS HELD ON NOVEMBER 7, 2022*

VILLAGE HALL / ZOOM MEETING

NOVEMBER 7, 2022

7:30 pm

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

Village Clerk Gina A. LoGalbo took roll.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Village Manager Bridget Wachtel; Assistant Village Manager Jonathan Bogue; Chief of Police Tod Kamleiter; Deputy Chief of Police Keith Taylor; Fire Chief Bob Kopec; Finance Director Scott Bordui; Director of Public Works John Brunke; Village Attorney Kathi Orr; Village Clerk Gina A. LoGalbo; 30 residents

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order. Mayor Nelson noted that the meeting was being held in person and via Zoom, which is permitted by Public Act 101-0640. Mayor Nelson noted that the public was invited to monitor the meeting via Zoom or attend the meeting in person. Public participation would be permitted only in person during the citizen comment portion of the agenda at the end of the meeting. Members of the public could submit comments on items on the agenda by emailing info@flossmoor.org, which would be shared with the Village Board. Mayor Nelson asked that all in attendance act with decorum so that the business of the Village could be conducted. She noted that individual commenters would be limited to five (5) minutes, for a maximum of thirty (30) minutes total for public comment.

Recognitions and Appointments

There were no recognitions or appointments for this meeting.

Mayor Nelson referred to the Consent Agenda (which encompassed Agenda Items 1-6):

- 1. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on October 17, 2022*
- 2. Presentation of Bills for Approval and Payment as Approved by the Finance Committee (November 7, 2022)*
- 3. A Proclamation Declaring November as National Diabetes Month*
- 4. Consideration of a Contract and Budget Amendment to Purchase De-icing Rock Salt from Cargill, Inc.*
- 5. Consideration of a Resolution Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 22-23 for the Village of Flossmoor*
- 6. Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13 of the Municipal Code (Plan Commission)*

Trustee Bradley-Scott asked about the contract for Item #4.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel stated that the contract was forty (40) pages long and that she could forward it to the Board if they'd like to see it. The contract is a State of Illinois Central Management Services contract.

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Mayor Nelson called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Trustee Daggett so moved, seconded by Trustee Mustafa.

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

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

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

NAYS: None

Reports of Committees, Commissions and Boards

Mayor Nelson reported that the Green Commission helped with the Pumpkin Smash event, which helped save hundreds of pounds of pumpkins from landfills and will be used at Possibility Place nursery for compost instead. On November 8, 2022 at 9 am, Mayor Nelson and others will be planting trees in Flossmoor. The Community Relations Committee is busy planning for Martin Luther King's Day of Service, which is a volunteer event treasured by the community. She encouraged people interested in volunteering to contact the Village.

Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #7 – Consideration of a Resolution of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Illinois, Approving a Change Order Relating to the Village Hall Generator Project. Mayor Nelson called for a motion to approve a Resolution of the Village of Flossmoor, Cook County, Approving a Change Order Relating to the Village Hall Generator Project. Trustee Mitros so moved, seconded by Trustee Bradley-Driscoll. Director of Public Works John Brunke explained that the Village Hall Generator Project is underway, and the contractor has completed the majority of the exterior work for conduit work and installation of the new generator on a new concrete foundation. Brunke stated that upon preliminary layout work for the connection of the generator's automatic transfer switch (ATS) cabinet and electrical connections to the building's original switch gear, it was determined that the proposed layout and improvements would not work due to the poor condition of the main building electric feed wiring and existing layout inside the switch gear's cabinet. The contractor met with the project engineer and Public Works Staff to discuss the best way to rearrange the switch gear cabinet and wiring and connect the new generator ATS and wiring to the building's electric feed from ComEd. That resulted in the preferred plan to replace the building's electric feed wiring from ComEd, modify the switchgear cabinets, relocate the ATS to the switchgear room, modify conduits to accommodate the new wiring locations, additional concrete work, and the addition of a whole building surge protection unit to make the building resilient to future power surges from the ComEd grid. Brunke explained that Powerlink Electric, the contractor on the project, has submitted a proposal for the change order, which totals \$66,083.00. The change order would bring the total cost of the project to \$581,578.00. Brunke added that Christopher B. Burke engineering has reviewed the proposal and recommended that the Village proceed with the change order. Public Works Staff recommend that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the proposed resolution and change order #1 for the Village Hall Generator Improvements Project in the amount of \$66,083.00 and approve a budget amendment to line 16-01-7-755.

Trustee Lofton asked whether ComEd had to change anything on their end.

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Brunke responded that nothing on ComEd's side changed. The issue is the existing wiring from the transformer outside. The wires are old and brittle, and the contractor wouldn't guarantee the work if the generator was connected to that wiring. Also, inside the old switchgear, it's so condensed that there is no space to add more wires to connect the generator, so a new cabinet would be built. The surge protection unit was added to the order because there have been power surges at Village Hall, where computers have been affected and rooftop units have failed. About \$5,000.00 of the proposal is for the surge protection unit for the entire building.

Trustee Mitros inquired about whether the engineer would have included these issues in the original proposal and the surge protection unit. He suggested that the engineer have a checklist of items to review for projects going forward.

Brunke responded that engineers don't open up the cabinet and switchgear until the project is going. They used the original building plans, which didn't look the same in person. In regard to the surge protection unit, that idea came out of discussions with staff regarding issues with power fluctuations.

Trustee Daggett asked whether electricians evaluate projects with the engineers. He suggested that for projects involving electricity or plumbing issues, professionals should also evaluate the projects for issues.

Brunke responded that the Village would have to pay for it, but it could be worth it and it will be considered going forward. The mechanical engineers who are evaluating the project aren't opening the cabinets.

Trustee Mustafa inquired about the age of the Village Hall building. She agrees with Trustee Mitros and Daggett about thinking proactively since a lot has changed (i.e., building codes) since the building was built.

Brunke responded that the building was built in 1979.

Mayor Nelson inquired about the quote deadline, which had passed, whether the contractor would still honor the quote, and when the work would be done.

Brunke responded that the contractor would still honor their quote. They are waiting on equipment to arrive, so they estimate that the work will be done in January 2023.

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

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Mayor Nelson referred to Agenda Item #8 – Consideration of Approval of the 2022 Tax Levy Estimate. Mayor Nelson called for a motion for the Approval of Option (1), Approach (3) of the 2022 Tax Levy Estimate. Trustee Mustafa so moved, seconded by Trustee Daggett. Finance Director Scott Bordui explained that the tax levy estimate needed to be approved at the Village Board meeting, which would allow the final tax levy to be adopted at the first Village Board meeting in December. He didn't have a lot of 2021 information to share that would form the basis of the tax levy estimate, since the property tax bills have been delayed, so he had to make assumptions regarding what the estimated numbers would be. Bordui provided an overview on the basis of his estimated levy, and the three (3) levy options that the Village Board could choose. Bordui recommended Option (1), Approach (3), which would allow the Village to continue its past successful tax levy strategy. He noted that the Truth in Taxation Law requires that the Village Board approve the estimate before they can approve a final tax levy and ordinance. Bordui added that historically the Village has fully funded the police and fire pensions, but it is a large financial challenge to do so.

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel noted that funding the police and fire pensions are statutory obligations, and the Village has a history of meeting its obligations every year.

Discussion ensued among the Board.

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 #9 – 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.

Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Board on a Non-Agenda Item (It should be noted that in reporting these comments, the Village has not researched the accuracy of any comments.):

Camiella Williams' comments, in summary, were that Chief Mitchell Davis is dealing with issues similar to Flossmoor, where two (2) Homewood-Flossmoor High School students were shot by a Hazel Crest police officer in 2017 and that Chief Davis covered it up. The Illinois State Police are still investigating that case. Williams is asking for Cook County police oversight and accountability to take over the investigation instead of the Illinois State Police, which is backed up with cases.

Dr. La'Shawn Littrice's comments, in summary, were that she was present to be a voice for the family of Madeline Miller, who asked that justice be done and that Miller not be disrespected. She didn't want the recent community gathering to be a patronizing action and wants action to be taken. She said that things

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need to be changed and racism in policing addressed. Littrice stated that she would continue to discuss Miller and the issues related to her death.

Casey Kuelto's comments, in summary, were descriptions of himself and descriptions of Madeline Miller. He stated that the Village needs to do various things, including adding Miller to the Board's agenda, firing the police officers involved in the death of Miller, implementing CESSA, implementing a civilian oversight committee, and creating a residency requirement for Flossmoor police officers. Kuelto spoke disparagingly about Chief Davis, Chief Kamleiter, and former Deputy Police Chief Clint Wagner.

Titilayo Anoma's comments, in summary, were that she found the recent community forum to be redundant and stated that she was accosted by a white man at the forum like another woman was at a previous Village Board meeting. She stated that the three (3) Black Trustees should be ashamed of themselves for not putting Madeline Miller on a Village Board meeting agenda.

Mark Kuehnen's comments, in summary, were that the Village needs to deal with the police who shot Madeline Miller; they are incompetent, have bad policies, and don't need guns in Flossmoor. He stated that the Village needs to implement CESSA, have a civilian oversight board, fire the police officers who shot Miller and charge them with murder.

Don Gross' comments, in summary, were that he was present in solidarity with Madeline Miller's family and present to demand justice. He noted that police leadership is leaving the Flossmoor Police Department instead of the two (2) officers who shot Miller. He stated that Flossmoor residents are not supported by the police, and that the Village has the resources to make the change. He added that there needs to be justice in this case, and that the Village Board could do something, or not, and keep protecting the police officers.

Tom Inczauskis' comments, in summary, were that they have been attending meetings since July demanding change, but the Mayor and Village Board have refused to seek meaningful change about police brutality.

Malcaveli Clemmons' comments, in summary, were that the Village Board disregarded Madeline Miller's death, they haven't talked with her family, and they have failed the community.

Samantha Moore's comments, in summary, were that at the community event was orchestrated and that a grown man was sent to attack women and children there, including her daughter. Moore said that it was similar to the situation at a Board meeting where PSL members were put out of the meeting, but resident Phil Lee wasn't when there was an incident involving him and another woman. Moore added that she hoped everyone on the Village Board was voted out.

Citizens Present Wishing to Address the Board on an Agenda Item:
No residents wished to speak on an Agenda Item.

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Other Business:

Village Manager Bridget Wachtel reported on the recent community forum, which had two (2) breakout sessions to discuss expectations and community concerns. The Village will be reviewing the notes from the forum, and will be compiling a plan for engaging the community and sharing helpful information. She stated that Village staff would be learning more about the implementation of CESSA, and they will push information out to residents when they have it.

Trustee Mustafa stated that she hasn't received positive comments about the community forum and a lot of negative comments and questions about it. She stated that the next forum should be more intentional.

Trustee Lofton stated that he received a similar reaction from people he spoke with about the forum, and that more residents from the Village need to attend the next one.

Trustee Daggett added that when the next forum is scheduled that they revisit the format for more engagement and interaction.

Trustee Bradley-Scott stated that the title and subject matter of the forum should have been captured differently so that residents could identify what the forum was about. She also suggested that all community events be placed on the community calendar on the Village's website, and noted that she didn't think that the community forum event was on there.

Trustee Driscoll added residents he spoke to who attended the break-out sessions had a favorable experience. He didn't like that the Trustees couldn't attend the breakout rooms. He noted that the attacks made by protestors were not helpful.

Village Clerk LoGalbo stated that local Girl Scout Troop #65547 was helping Flossmoor Veterans Memorial, Inc. to find 100 more Flossmoor veterans in order to reach 1000, and they could contact the group or her.

Trustee Mustafa stated that the Community Relations Commission discussed Martin Luther King Day of Service and added that the Community Relations Commission, including Jackie Riffice who is spearheading this project, be invited before the Board to brief the Board on this year's program.

Mayor Nelson stated that the Village's thoughts and prayers were with Madeline Miller's family, the officers involved, and all those impacted by the tragic incident. Mayor Nelson explained that there are three (3) components to the investigation: an investigation by the Illinois State police (where the Village is at right now), the State's Attorney's review, and the Illinois Appellate Court's review. Mayor Nelson stated that the Village will keep the community updated. She noted that in regard to the community forum, it was a great opportunity for residents to share what was on their mind and in their hearts. She added that the Village is monitoring CESSA, which is not ready for implementation. Also, Rebuild Illinois gave the Village \$103,000.00 to put towards capital projects.

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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 and passed by a voice vote.

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

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gina A. LoGalbo
Village Clerk