

BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION
11004 Carpenter Street, Mokena, Illinois 60448
Monday, May 20, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fleischer called the Board of Trustees work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Trustees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following Trustees were present:

Rob Dauphinais
Melissa Fedora
Terry G. Germany
George Metanias
Terence Smith

Absent: Debbie Engler, Village Clerk Melissa Martini

Also, present were the following: Village Administrator John Tomasoski; Assistant Village Administrator Greg Anderson; Village Attorney/Human Resources Director Carl Buck; Assistant Public Director of Public Works Dan Peloquin; and Chief of Police Brian Benton

State of the Village

Mayor Fleischer presented the topic of conducting a State of the Village catered event separate from the event hosted by the Mokena Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Fleischer indicated that the event would promote the Village and encourage individuals other than members of the Chamber of Commerce to attend. The majority (four against, two uncertain) of the Board did not support the concept of having a separate Village-sponsored State of the Village event. Trustee Fedora commented that the Chamber conducts one every year and would like to keep the event with the Chamber of Commerce. Trustee Metanias commented that the item had been placed in the budget without discussion with the Board and that he did not support conducting a separate event from the Chamber of Commerce event. Trustee Dauphinais suggested the Mayor prepare a State of the Village by filming it and putting it on the Village website. Mayor Fleischer expressed his disappointment with the lack of support for this proposal.

Staff Reports

Assistant Public Works Director Dan Peloquin highlighted an update on the La Grange Road Bike path project. In June 2023, the Village Board approved a resolution related to the installation of a 10' wide bike path along the west side of US 45 from LaPorte Road to the Georgio Property for Design Engineering followed by construction. Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. (CBBEL) was selected as the engineer for the Village and requires additional work be authorized because once the work commenced, it was discovered that multiple monuments for surveying are present in the field contrary to the monuments used for the initial design. Extra parcels near Laporte & Lagrange Roads will be required. At this time, there is a proposal from CBBEL to perform the additional services for the additional parcel with a total cost Not to Exceed Fee of \$18,666. Trustee Smith asked why this was necessary. Assistant Public Works Director Peloquin replied that due to the grant requirements, the Village has to improve other areas near the sidewalk improvements to American with Disabilities act (ADA) standards. Trustee Germany asked for a general overview of the entire project, which Assistant Public Works Director Peloquin provided a general overview. The Board directed staff to proceed with adding this proposal to the next agenda for consideration.

Mayor Fleischer advised the Board of the details and program for the ribbon cutting and open house ceremony for the new police station. Village Administrator John Tomasoski informed the Board that staff was working on finalizing various details for this upcoming event including closing down a portion of 104th Avenue near the Police Station for parking as well as being able to utilize the Frankfort Township bus to bring guests to the facility from Village Hall. Police Chief Benton provided a status update on the timeline for relocating the transfer switch and status of the elevator.

Mayor Fleischer thanked Village Attorney/ Human Resources Director Carl Buck for his memo regarding electioneering and the use of Village property for community events and asked Mr.

Buck to provide any further information. Mr. Buck stated that the memo outlined the requirements of state statute which should be followed by the Village.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Metanias made a motion to enter executive session at 7:04 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) and litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting pursuant to 5 ILCS 12/2(c)(11). Trustee Dauphinais seconded.

AYES: (5) Dauphinais, Fedora, Germany, Metanias, Smith

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (1) Engler

Motion carried

RECONVENE WORK SESSION

Trustee Metanias made a motion to adjourn the executive session and reconvene the work session at 8:05 p.m. Trustee Dauphinais seconded.

AYES: (5) Dauphinais, Fedora, Germany, Metanias, Smith

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (1) Engler

Motion carried

There being no further business to bring before the Mayor and Board of Trustees, Mayor Fleischer adjourned the work session at 8:08 p.m.