

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION**  
**11004 Carpenter Street, Mokena, Illinois 60448**

Session #001

January 13, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Fleischer called the regular session of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:45 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board of Trustees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Clerk Martini called the roll and the following Trustees were present:

Rob Dauphinais  
Debbie Engler  
Melissa Fedora  
Terry G. Germany  
George J. Metanias  
James D. Roberts

Also present were the following: Village Clerk Melissa Martini; Village Administrator John Tomasoski; Village Attorney/Human Resources Director Carl Buck; Chief of Police Brian Benton; Public Works Director Dan Peloquin; Community Development Director Brent Cann; Management Analyst Ashley Pala; and Civil Engineer James Bosma

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Engler made a motion to enter executive session at 6:47 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) 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 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (6) Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Germany, Metanias, Roberts

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

**RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION**

Trustee Engler made a motion to adjourn the executive session and reconvene the regular meeting at 6:57 p.m. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (6) Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Germany, Metanias, Roberts

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

Mayor Fleischer wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that an executive session was held at the beginning of the night's meeting.

**DISCOVER MOKENA**

Clerk Martini presented the Community Calendar.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Jim Schlegel discussed his recent review of the Village's 2002 Comprehensive Plan, 2008 Downtown Plan, the Mokena Park District's Comprehensive Plan and the Village's new Comprehensive Plan website at [www.planmokena.org](http://www.planmokena.org). He stated that there are some comments on the Village's Comprehensive Plan website that could be addressed right

away to assist with the quality of life in Mokena. He suggested forming a committee consisting of himself, Mr. Glenn Eiden, the Village Clerk, and a Village Trustee to review the website's comments and find items to assist with completing immediately.

Mayor Fleischer stated that the Village's new Comprehensive Plan is in its beginning stages and the Village will be requesting residential input by various means in the future. He suggested Mr. Schlegel put his ideas together and submit them to the Village.

Mr. Schlegel stated he would submit his ideas to the Village as he believes some comments on the Comprehensive Plan's website do not relate to the Comprehensive Plan and can be addressed immediately.

Mayor Fleischer thanked Mr. Schlegel for his comments.

Mr. Glenn Eiden wished everyone a Happy New Year on behalf of himself and his wife, Diane. He thanked and complimented the Village Board for their great fiscal responsibility. Mr. Eiden also stated that the holiday lighting in Downtown Mokena looked great this year.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Village Administrator John Tomasoski presented three (3) items on the Consent Agenda for Board approval. These items are strictly administrative in nature.

- a) Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-O-001, an Ordinance pertaining to the classification and number of Liquor Licenses issued in the Village of Mokena; and to authorize the Village President and Village Clerk to execute same.
- b) Motion to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2024 Board Meeting.
- c) Motion to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2024 Special Board Meeting.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items 7 (a), (b) and (c) as depicted in the January 9, 2025 Request for Board Action prepared by the Village Administrator. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (6) Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Germany, Metanias, Roberts

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

### **FINANCE REPORT/ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

Village Administrator John Tomasoski presented the accounts payable list for January totaling \$1,721,822.35. He highlighted the following invoices to be paid:

- \$ 57,734.50 to Bank of New York for the Police Station Note Payable interest.
- \$ 381,591.90 to Illinois Department of Transportation for the Village's portion of resurfacing 191<sup>st</sup> Street.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve the monthly accounts payable in the amount of \$1,721,822.35. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (6) Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Germany, Metanias, Roberts

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (0)

Motion carried

### **APPOINTMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Appointment of Gabriel Braboy to Civil Engineer Position**

Director of Public Works Dan Peloquin stated that there has been a vacancy for the position of Civil Engineer after former Civil Engineer Kyle Vester resigned from the position. There were 145 resumes submitted in interest for the position and eight (8) applicants were selected for first-round interviews. Three (3) applicants proceeded with a second-round interview.

Director of Public Works Peloquin stated that Mr. Gabriel Braboy was selected as the recommended candidate to fill the position of Civil Engineer. He reviewed Mr. Braboy's

education and professional background and stated Mr. Braboy possesses the skills and capabilities necessary to perform all tasks required in connection with the position, and he will be an immediate asset to the Public Works Department's operations. He further recommended the appointment of Mr. Gabriel Braboy to the position of Civil Engineer.

Trustee Engler made a motion to appoint Mr. Gabriel Braboy to the position of Civil Engineer in the Public Works Department for the Village of Mokena at an annual salary of Grade 17, Step 12A, effective January 20, 2025, pending pre-employment results. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (6) Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Germany, Metanias, Roberts  
NAYS: (0)  
Absent: (0)  
Motion carried

Mr. Braboy thanked the Village Board for the opportunity.

**PRE-SCHEDULED PROPOSALS / PRESENTATIONS AND VISITORS**  
N/A

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**  
N/A

**OLD BUSINESS**  
N/A

**NEW BUSINESS**  
N/A

**VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS**

Community Development Director Brent Cann announced new businesses for January 2025.

Village Administrator John Tomasoski reminded residents that the Police Department is available as a warming center and to call the Police Department at (708) 479-3912 or the Village Hall at (708) 479-3900 to make arrangements. He also asked residents to check on neighbors during the cold weather.

Mayor Fleischer asked Community Development Director Cann if business Up At Dawn Bakery was opening this month.

Community Development Director Cann stated Up At Dawn Bakery is planning to open this month.

Mayor Fleischer asked Community Development Director Cann if new business D & S Meats has an office in Mokena.

Community Development Director Cann stated that D & S Meats is not an office and is processing packaged meat.

Mayor Fleischer asked Community Development Director Cann if D & S Meats is set up to treat their waste appropriately.

Community Development Director Cann stated yes.

**TRUSTEES' COMMENTS**

Trustee Germany wished Mayor Fleischer, the Board of Trustees, Village staff, and residents a Happy New Year.

Trustee Dauphinais wished everyone a Happy New Year. He thanked the Public Works Department for their snowplowing efforts over the weekend and stated the community looks great.

Trustee Engler wished everyone a Happy New Year. She offered her sympathies to former Public Works Director Lou Tiberi regarding the recent loss of his father. Trustee



Engler congratulated Mokena Junior High School Assistant Principal Luke Munch as he was recently named Assistant Principal of the Year by the Illinois Principals Association.

Trustee Metanias stated he hoped everyone had a nice Christmas and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He complimented the Public Works Department for a great job on the recent snowplowing. Trustee Metanias offered his sympathies to former Public Works Director Lou Tiberi regarding the recent loss of his father.

Trustee Fedora highlighted the holiday lighting in Downtown Mokena and thanked the Public Works Department for all their hard work. She recognized Cable Commission General Manager Tim Franson for his dedication and years of service to the Village and wished him a happy birthday.

Trustee Roberts discussed his recent meeting as part of the Development Committee with the Mokena Park District to assist with their 5-year Comprehensive Plan, focusing on partnership and parks and facilities. He announced that the Mokena Park District will be promoting resident input with email surveys and mailers in the future. Trustee Roberts wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and stated, "Go Buckeyes".

#### **CLERK'S COMMENTS**

Clerk Martini passed on the opportunity to make comments.

#### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Fleischer announced that the FISH Organization was closing due to a decline in volunteers. He discussed their service and positive impact on the community. On behalf of Barb Cottingham who served with the FISH Organization for over 30 years, he thanked the Village for their support throughout the years. Mayor Fleischer thanked everyone involved with the FISH Organization for taking care of Mokena's residents.

Mayor Fleischer recognized the importance of first responders not only during catastrophic events, but every day, and thanked them for their service.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Engler made a motion to adjourn the regular session at 7:27 p.m. Trustee Metanias seconded.

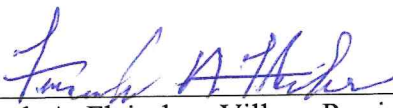
AYES: (6) Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Germany, Metanias, Roberts

NAYS: (0)


Absent: (0)

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,

  
Frank A. Fleischer, Village President

ATTEST:

  
Melissa Martini, Village Clerk