

BOARD OF TRUSTEES WORK SESSION
11004 Carpenter Street, Mokena, Illinois 60448
Monday, February 10, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fleischer called the Board of Trustees work session to order at 7:21 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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: Deputy Clerk Kathleen Pyznarski; 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; and Interim Finance Director Rachel Mayer

Police Station Bronze Statue

Chief of Police Brian Benton presented this item.

Chief Benton stated that the Board authorized the expenditure of \$764,038 for a variety of items such as furniture, information technology, phone systems, range contingency and other Owner's costs among other things at the October 5, 2023, Village Board Meeting. At the January 2024 Work Session, the Board was notified of the Police Department's intent to go out to bid for a bronze statue that will be located on the pedestal in front of the new Police Station. The Board was advised that the statue will be 2/3 scale size, which is between 48"-52" and that the pedestal height was just under 3". At that time, we advised that the build-time was projected to be more than six months due to the intricacies of the artwork involved. At that meeting, an image of the proposed statue was shared with the Board.

Chief Benton stated that in mid-2022, Deputy Chief Stumpf researched vendors who had created similar statues for area public safety facilities. Due to the fact that such artists are not commonplace, vendors were scarce. Those agencies who had similar statues recommended Brodin Studios to Deputy Chief Stumpf. At that time, Deputy Chief Stumpf contacted Brodin Studios to discuss our intent. During their discussion, Deputy Chief Stumpf received an approximate cost, as well as information on competitive vendors.

In September 2024, staff sent out a solicitation of bids to multiple reputable Bronze Statue vendors. Only one vendor, Brodin Studios, Inc. from Kimball, Minnesota, responded. The price quoted for manufacture and delivery totaled \$47,500. The Brodin Representative said they may be able to offer a slight price reduction based on a variety of factors such as when we order the statue, the time it takes them to make and deliver it, the assistance we can provide for installation and other factors. At this time, staff is seeking the Board's input and support on moving forward with the project.

Discussion:

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the project with vendor, Brodin Studios, Inc.

Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau (CSCVB)

Mayor Fleischer presented this item.

Mayor Fleischer stated that at the January 8, 2024, Board meeting, the funding agreement regarding Hotel / Motel Tax between the Village of Mokena and the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitor's Bureau dated July 1, 1994, was terminated. Prior to that, the Board reviewed related to the Hotel and Motel Accommodation Tax at the November 20, 2023, Work Session. Then, at the January 8, 2024, Board Meeting, Mr. Jim Garrett, President/CEO of CSCVB, was present with CSCVB staff members to present information on the services that the Bureau has provided to the Village of Mokena. However, the Board terminated the appointments

of Village President Frank Fleischer and Assistant Village Administrator Greg Anderson for the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitor's Bureau as part of terminating the agreement. The Mayor and Board decided not to authorize the execution of the document naming the CSCVB as the Village of Mokena Agency of Record for 2024.

During the Work Session on February 10, 2025, Mayor Fleischer stated the Agency of Record is separate from the agreement regarding Hotel / Motel Tax that was terminated in January of 2024. Engaging in the Agency of Record would allow CSCVB to include Village events in the yearly Visitors Guide as well as their website with no financial obligation from the Village. Each year, the CSCVB must submit an official document executed by the Village President indicating that the Bureau is providing promotion and advertising services for the Village. This qualifies the Bureau to receive matching funds from the State to supplement this service. The Village received the proposed Agency of Record on January 27, 2025.

Mayor Fleischer further stated a discussion amongst the Board is needed to determine if the Village would like to execute the Agency of Record to allow CSCVB to include Village events in the yearly Visitors Guide for 2025. Mayor Fleischer also noted CSCVB President and CEO Mr. Jim Garrett retired this past year and Mrs. Mary Patchin has taken his place.

Discussion:

The consensus of the Village Board was to engage in the Agency of Record allowing CSCVB to include Village events in the yearly Visitors Guide for 2025.

There being no further business to bring before the Mayor and Board of Trustees, Mayor Fleischer adjourned the work session at 7:32 p.m.