

Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

Date: Monday, March 09, 2009

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Village Hall Auditorium

Minutes of the Meeting

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Village Hall Auditorium

53 South La Grange Road

La Grange, IL 60525

Monday, March 9, 2009 - 7:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange regular meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk Robert Milne, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, and Palermo

ABSENT: Trustees Langan, Livingston and Wolf

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn

Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson

Village Attorney Mark Burkland

Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin

Assistant Community Development Director / Planner Angela Mesaros

Finance Director Lou Cipparrone

Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham

Assistant Public Works Director Mike Bojovic

Village Engineer Tom Heuer

Fire Chief David Fleege

Police Chief Mike Holub

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger announced that the Village has once again received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. President Asperger noted the

Village has received this prestigious award for numerous years and expressed her gratitude to Finance Director Lou Cipparrone and Assistant Finance Director Joe Munizza for their excellent financial management.

President Asperger invited residents to attend the budget workshop on Saturday, March 14, at 8:00 a.m. Noting that the draft budget for fiscal year beginning May 1, 2009 is available at the Village Hall, Library, and posted on the Village website, President Asperger encouraged residents to read the Village Manager's message which summarizes the Village's financial conditions. Budget adoption is scheduled to be placed on the Village Board's agenda on Monday, April 13 after the Public Hearing.

President Asperger indicated that the March 23 Village Board meeting would be canceled and the next regular meeting of the Village Board would be on April 13.

Lastly, President Asperger reminded residents of the scheduled Spring Clean Up days to be held on April 6 and 9 for residents on their usual refuse pick-up day.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Bill Dobias, 141 N. La Grange Road feels that the Resolution regarding support of the sale by the Park District of a portion of Gordon Park and the redevelopment of Gordon Park and the former YMCA property should be removed from the Omnibus portion of the agenda and discussed further. Mr. Dobias expressed numerous issues and concerns with this item and hoped the Village Board would not approve the resolution in support of the transaction.

Kevin Shields, 45 N. Drexel agrees with Mr. Dobias that this item should be further discussed. Mr. Shields believes approval of the resolution would be making a political statement to be used in a court of law.

Tim Kelpsas, President of the Park District, 67 N. Brainard believes the Village Board's support through passage of the Resolution would have positive effects within the courts to move forward with the transaction. Mr. Kelpsas reminded Mr. Dobias that the developer has agreed to set aside a portion of the open land.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

A. (Moved to Current Business for further discussion.)

B. Ordinance (#O-09-04) Variation – Required Front Yard, Kenneth and Marianne Levinson, 49 North Stone Avenue

C. Ordinance (#O-09-05) Consolidation of Lots / Joan and Kurt Hoigard, 343-345 South Sixth Avenue

D. Consolidated Voucher 090309 (\$592,1789.69)

E. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, February .23, 2009

F. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Executive Committee Workshop Capital Projects, Monday, February 9 and 23, 2009

G. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Special Meeting, Monday, March 2, 2009

It was moved by Trustee Horvath to approve items A, B, C, D, E, F, and G of the Omnibus Agenda, seconded by Trustee Kuchler.

Trustee Palermo requested item 4-A be removed from the Omnibus Agenda and placed under Current Business for further discussion.

It was moved by Trustee Palermo to amend the motion and to approve items B, C, D, E, F, and G of the Omnibus, seconded by Trustee Horvath. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Palermo, and President Asperger

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Langan, Livingston and Wolf

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

4-A. Resolution (#R-09-05) In Support of the Sale by the Park District of La Grange of a Portion of Gordon Park and the Redevelopment of Gordon Park and the Former YMCA Property

Trustee Palermo explained the Village's support to move forward with the redevelopment project of the former YMCA property and Gordon Park. Trustee Palermo noted the circumstances and history of the sale of Park District land and the pending lawsuit to halt such a sale. If approved, Trustee Palermo added that the Park District would offer the resolution in support of the transaction to the court as part of its defense against claims raised in the lawsuit.

Trustee Palermo read the resolution verbatim and requested Village Attorney Mark Burkland to explain the relevance of such a legislative action in a court of law. Attorney Burkland explained that the resolution is attempting to show the trial judge that the transaction is in the public's best interest. Trustee Palermo suggested several revisions to the resolution which were:

1. Removing reference to the deteriorated condition of the YMCA property.
2. Removing reference to the forthcoming expiration of the land use approval.
3. Modify the degree of support for the sale of park land by removing the word "strongly."

Trustee Kuchler indicated that while he continues to have reservations with the redevelopment project, he would support the resolution and the Village as a whole was suffering because the YMCA building is vacant and off the tax rolls. Trustee Kuchler noted the process should move forward.

Trustee Horvath also expressed his support of the resolution and agrees with Trustee Kuchler that it will benefit the community.

President Asperger read documentation sent to her from Trustees Langan and Livingston noting their affirmative support for this item.

After discussion of Trustee Palermo's suggested revisions to the resolution, it was the consensus of the Village Board to approve the resolution as stated but to strike the word strongly as it relates to supporting the sale by the Park District of a portion of Gordon Park.

It was moved by Trustee Palermo to approve the resolution in support of the sale by the Park District of La Grange of a portion of Gordon Park and the redevelopment of Gordon Park and the former YMCA property as amended, seconded by Trustee Horvath. Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Horvath, Kuchler, Palermo, and President Asperger

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Langan, Livingston and Wolf

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Announcement – Commencement of Public Comment Period / Village of La Grange Combined Sewer System Overflow Plan

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn briefly explained the operation of the various types of sewer systems and enumerated on the agencies which regulate discharge of sewer waters. Mr. Pilipiszyn further explained a new regulatory requirement under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System which has been issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr. Pilipiszyn listed the items which the Village is required to comply with and requested Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham and Village Engineer Tom Heuer to elaborate.

Mr. Gillingham briefly described the plan and noted that all of the information is posted on the Village's website. Mr. Heuer presented a detailed exhibit of the sewer system throughout the Village explaining key elements relating to the discharge of sewer waters.

Mr. Pilipiszyn indicated this announcement is notification to the public to review the information provided by the Village.

Trustee Horvath suggested that the Village produce educational materials for residents on the subject of sewer back-ups.

Trustee Palermo requested that staff issue instructive material for residents during storm events.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON AGENDA

Tim Kelpsas, 67 N. Brainard appreciates the Village's Spring Clean Up Day but encouraged the public to donate usable items to local charities. President Asperger agreed and indicated the Village would post alternative recycling information on its website.

Jim Boo, 1327 Mason Drive introduced himself as a candidate for the Park District Board and expressed pride in the Village Board's conduct this evening.

David May, 400 S. 8th Avenue as a private resident expressed his difference of opinion in the projected use of TIF funds for the renovation of the La Grange Theatre.

Joe Fedoruk, 217 W. Harris expressed several complaints related to refuse haulers; sewer drainage; snow removal; and public works. President Asperger noted her confidence in staff and indicated his concerns would be addressed.

Danielle De Waals, 855 – 12th is seeking follow-up for beautification of the public right-

of-way adjacent to her home, and to buffer residents from neighboring industrial uses. President Asperger noted that the Village Manager would address this matter.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Kuchler expressed his support to address the resident concerns expressed this evening. Trustee Palermo concurred.

Trustee Horvath indicated his acquaintance with one of the industries and offered to broker a meeting.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:05 p.m. it moved by Trustee Horvath to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Palermo. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

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Approved: 04/13/09