

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Village Hall Auditorium  
53 South La Grange Road  
La Grange, IL 60525

Monday, September 22, 2014 - 7:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Livingston. On roll call, as read by Deputy Village Clerk Elder, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Kuchler, Langan (arrived at 8:02 p.m.), McCarty, Nowak and Palermo with President Livingston presiding.

ABSENT: Village Clerk John Burns  
Trustee Holder

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn  
Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson  
Village Attorney Mark Burkland  
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone  
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin  
Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham  
Fire Chief Donald Gay  
Police Chief Michael Holub.

President Livingston requested Deputy Village Clerk Elder to lead the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Oath of Office – Firefighter Paramedic Michael P. Raimondi

With a recent vacancy in the Fire Department created as a result of a promotion, the La Grange Board of Fire and Police Commissioners have appointed Michael P. Raimondi to fill the position of Firefighter/Paramedic effective September 15, 2014. Noting his qualifications, President Livingston requested he step forward and Deputy Village Clerk Elder to administer the oath of office.

B. Oath of Office – Police Officer Bret Hon

With a recent vacancy in the Police Department created as a result of a resignation, the La Grange Board of Fire and Police Commissioners have appointed Bret Hon to fill the position of Police Officer effective September 22, 2014. Noting his qualifications, President Livingston requested he step forward and Deputy Village Clerk Elder to administer the oath of office.

President Livingston provided information on the upcoming annual Open House at the La Grange Fire Department.

Announcing a special meeting of the Village Board scheduled for Monday, October 6, President Livingston noted its purpose is to further consider the Opus Redevelopment Project of the former YMCA property.

President Livingston requested information be provided on the upcoming closure of the La Grange Road railroad crossing. Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson explained that reconstruction of the crossing will begin on Friday, September 26. The crossing will be completely closed for one week and details on accessibility and alternate routes are available on the Village website.

As in past years, the Village will conduct its Fall leaf pick-up program on October 6 and continue through November 26.

President Livingston expressed his thanks to all entities involved in communications related to the recent flooding. Although the severe rain and flooding which occurred on August 22 does not fall within Cook County's disaster relief, the Village is pursuing alternative means of assistance and will provide updates as they become available.

In follow-up to previous discussions regarding the Beds Program, President Livingston noted that Police Chief Holub supplied the Board with data compiled since January 2014 relative to homeless individuals. President Livingston requested Chief Mike Holub to elaborate on the report.

Chief Holub explained the various areas where data was compiled and number of incident calls received relative to homeless individuals. Chief Holub noted the majority were related to a single individual who resides in the Village. Providing details on foot patrols conducted in the Central Business District along with specifics related to homeless incidents in public buildings, Chief Holub indicated that open communication with social service agencies is ongoing.

Although routine Police patrols at schools remains consistent, President Livingston advised that due to budget constraints a School Resource Officer has not been designated. As the Village has actively collaborated with Beds to diversify its service locations, particularly the daytime program to ease concentration and impacts in

particular areas, President Livingston feels a balanced approach continues to evolve. Adding that Beds is seeking grants for supplemental assistance in achieving their goals to utilize various options in serving homeless individuals, President Livingston opened the discussion to the Board.

Trustee Palermo believes the data related to homeless incidents is important and inquired if the Police Department would continue to compile. Although difficult, Chief Holub responded affirmatively.

Trustee Nowak inquired if incident calls have differentiated or decreased from the past. Chief Holub responded that they remain consistent. Trustee Nowak inquired if any imminent issues need to be addressed and Chief Holub responded negatively.

President Livingston advised that this matter would continue to be monitored in the upcoming months.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Resolution (#R-14-09) – Intersection Improvements at Locust Avenue and Ogden Avenue / STP Grant Approval
- B. Engineering Services Agreement – Stone Avenue Train Station – CMAQ Pedestrian Access Improvements – Phase I Engineering Services
- C. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, September 8, 2014
- D. Consolidated Voucher 140922 (\$993,698.00)

It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve items A, B, C and D of the Omnibus Agenda, seconded by Trustee Nowak.

Approved by a 5 to 0 roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Palermo, Nowak, McCarty, Langan, and Kuchler

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Holder

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. Engineering Services Agreement – South of 47<sup>th</sup> Street Drainage Basin Hydraulic Modeling: Referred to Trustee Langan

President Livingston requested the Board's consent to refrain from discussion and voting on this item until after the Manager's report relative to capital projects and sewer improvements had been presented. The Board concurred and President Livingston requested Trustee Langan to read this item into the record.

Trustee Langan provided details on the series of flooding issues due to the recent high intensity rain storms. Although the Village had previously developed drainage studies for each of the three major drainage basins throughout the Village, Trustee Langan noted the Board's request to expedite engineering solutions and pursue funding. Given limited resources, Trustee Langan explained staff's recommendations to implement solutions to address overland flooding; to reduce combined sewer backups; and to reduce rear yard flooding.

Trustee Langan noted the steps by which to proceed and the goals of hydraulic modeling in order to provide various options and cost of implementation. Trustee Langan advised that staff recommends consideration of an agreement with Baxter and Woodman to complete the hydraulic analysis in the amount of \$32,000 and the geotechnical investigation estimated at \$15,000. As this is an unbudgeted item, Trustee Langan advised the need to utilize General Fund reserves.

President Livingston noted this action item would be addressed this evening after the workshop and requested Village Manager Pilipiszyn to present his report.

## 6. MANAGER'S REPORT

### A. Capital Projects / Sewer Improvements Workshop

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn explained that this workshop will consist of a series of informational pieces related to capital projects, sewer system improvements, and funding options. Mr. Pilipiszyn requested Finance Director Lou Cipparrone to provide a status update on Village finances, after which Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham to provide options for sewer improvements after which Mr. Cipparrone to comment on options for increases in revenue.

Mr. Cipparrone explained current budgeted and unbudgeted items. Adding that limitations exist on some capital improvements as they are funded by grants, Mr. Cipparrone explained the need for additional revenue sources in order to provide for sewer improvements and other necessary capital projects.

Mr. Gillingham provided a power point presentation describing solutions to address sewer flooding. Mr. Gillingham noted the sequence and solutions to address overland flooding; combined sewer back-up; and rear yard flooding. Mr. Gillingham explained that in order to determine the cost-benefit of constructing sewer improvements it is necessary to perform hydraulic modeling. Showing visual effects of the interior of specific sewers, Mr. Gillingham emphasized the importance of this first step.

Mr. Gillingham further elaborated on working with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and the Illinois Department of Transportation in relation to regional flood mitigation projects for sewer improvements and grant funding.

Mr. Cipparrone noted additional capital projects and projected costs for funding these various items. Although General Fund Reserves can be utilized for the hydraulic modeling, Mr. Cipparrone explained the viable options to fund unbudgeted capital projects.

At 8:30 p.m. President Livingston opened the floor for discussion.

Trustee Nowak requested an explanation on the use of a flood wall in the area of the La Grange Country Club. Mr. Gillingham explained this would act as a temporary storage to slow down the release of storm water into the Village's combined sewer.

Trustee McCarty noted concerns with the flood wall and Mr. Gillingham emphasized the importance of utilizing the hydraulic modeling to determine what next steps would be most effective.

Trustee Kuchler expressed his favor of the hydraulic study but noted his concerns in monies budgeted for the MARS project as he would like assurance that monies are appropriated properly. Although challenging, Mr. Gillingham indicated the importance of this project and working with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District.

Trustee Langan shares concerns in funds being appropriated properly to resolve sewer improvements.

President Livingston requested Mr. Cipparrone to provide various funding options. Mr. Cipparrone noted that even if the referendum for a 1% increase in sales tax is approved there continues to be a shortfall in funding for capital projects and sewer improvements. Mr. Cipparrone explained bonding options, an increase in municipal utility tax, and an increase in sewer rates as possible revenue sources.

Trustee Palermo noted other counties utilize a flood tax for alternate revenues. Trustee Palermo also suggested the use of rain gardens as a cost effective means to reduce flooding.

Although Trustee McCarty concurs with funding concerns, he feels the need to move quickly in resolving flooding issues and is in favor of the hydraulic modeling analysis.

Trustee Nowak agrees that the Village's aging infrastructure needs to be addressed quickly. Trustee Nowak generally supports a freeze on property taxes in

consideration that other funding options can be utilized to address the repairs and replacement of infrastructure.

Although increased revenues are mandated to address needed capital projects, President Livingston noted his discomfort in increasing taxes. President Livingston advised the need to develop additional strategies if the 1% sales tax referendum is not approved by voters and directed staff to prepare a draft document related to budgeting alternatives. President Livingston advised that sewer televising will be considered at the next Village Board meeting.

Trustee Nowak expressed his thanks to Mr. Gillingham for his presentation and providing the Board with possible solutions.

Returning to item 5A under current business, Trustee Langan moved to approve contracts with Baxter and Woodman in the amount of \$47,000 for engineering services for the development of a hydraulic analysis of various alternatives to reduce the flooding south of 47<sup>th</sup> Street, seconded by Trustee Nowak and McCarty.

Approved by a 5 to 0 roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Palermo, Nowak, McCarty, Langan, and Kuchler  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Holder

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

As the spokesperson for local residents Mike Matteucci, who resides at 744 S. Spring expressed thanks to the Board for providing focus and solutions relative to flooding. Mr. Matteucci is hopeful that funding mechanisms be put in place quickly.

Rose Naseeff, 911 S. Stone expressed her favor of utilizing rain gardens as a cost effective way to reduce flooding.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Palermo announced upcoming events in the Village and encouraged the public to participate.

Trustee Kuchler thanked Mr. Gillingham for his presentation as well as Chief Holub for his report on the homeless.

Trustee Langan assured Mr. Matteucci that the Board is diligent in its efforts to address budget constraints for capital projects related to sewer improvements.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:46 p.m. Trustee Langan moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Palermo. Motion approved by voice vote.



Thomas E. Livingston, Village President

ATTEST:



John Burns, Village Clerk

Approved Date: October 13, 2014