

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

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

Monday, November 24, 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 Holder, Kuchler (arrived at 7:34 p.m.), Langan, McCarty, Nowak and Palermo with President Livingston presiding.

ABSENT: None

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

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

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Livingston expressed gratitude to Richard Zaborski for donating the holiday tree for the annual Hometown Holiday to be held on December 6. President Livingston also expressed his thanks to Lyons Tree Service for assisting in transporting the tree.

A. Appointment – Community and Economic Development Commission (CEDC)

To fill a vacancy on the Community and Economic Development Commission, President Livingston introduced Ms. Lisa Sher and thanked her for her willingness to serve. President Livingston requested her appointment be approved.

Trustee Holder moved to approve the appointment, seconded by Trustee Palermo. Motion approved by voice vote.

B. Community Update from La Grange Memorial Hospital

President Livingston noted changes in healthcare since the Adventist La Grange Memorial Hospital opened in 1956. Introducing Mr. Michael Goebel, Chief Executive Officer of Adventist La Grange and Adventist Hinsdale Hospitals, President Livingston requested he provide an update on services.

Mr. Goebel provided information on the recognition the hospital has received for patient satisfaction. Mr. Goebel detailed the hospitals affiliations; the recent emergency department expansion; and cancer institute outpatient center. Addressing the importance of population health management to lower health care costs, Mr. Goebel anticipates future consolidations will evolve.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

John Schiess, Architect for 40 S. Ashland noted his availability for any questions.

Karen Barnard, Aurelio's Pizza 11 W. Calendar expressed concerns relevant to parking for Aurelio's customers. Ms. Barnard is hopeful the Board will allow signage and reserved short term parking.

Rose Ashby, 121 S. Ashland noted her support for the multiple family development at 40 S. Ashland and feels issues presented have been thoughtfully addressed by the Plan Commission.

Joe Fedoruk, 217 W. Harris is opposed to the multi-family development. Mr. Fedoruk feels the mass of the buildings will interfere with sewer, electric, and access to wi-fi for School District 102.

Phil Fornaro, 308 S. Park Road as a resident, business owner, and representative of the La Grange Business Association is supportive of the development.

Joan Smothers, 919 W. Hillgrove added her support for the project and feels it will be an asset to the business community. Ms. Smothers believes there is a market for this type of high quality development.

Kris Fedoruk, 217 W. Harris expressed concerns that the multi-family development does not meet zoning requirements and does not feel the developer has complied with changes to reduce the size.

Ed Farell who resides in La Grange Park supports the project.

Chris Lyons who also resides in La Grange Park is a potential buyer and hopes the Board will approve the project.

Patricia Dravillas favors a one level condo unit and is in favor of the project.

Paul Dravillas, 211 S. Ashland feels the project will enhance safety and encourages its approval.

Rich Fheur of Western Springs also favors the project.

Phil Bernard, 2 S. Catherine opposes the project and feels the Board should consider the good of the entire community not just the needs of individuals.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Request to Purchase – Police Department / Replacement of Investigations Vehicle
- B. (Moved to Current Business for further discussion.)
- C. Ordinance (#O-14-41) – Disposal of Surplus Property / Miscellaneous Personal Property and Evidence
- D. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, November 10, 2014
- E. Consolidated Voucher 141124 (\$531,344.33)

Trustee Kuchler requested items 4-B be removed from the Omnibus Agenda and placed under Current Business for further discussion.

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

Approved by a 6 to 0 roll call vote.

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

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

4-B. Map Amendment – Short Term Parking Space / Loading Zones Within the Central Business District / 0-100 Block of W. Calendar Avenue

Trustee Kuchler explained that in 2006 the Village Board approved an ordinance amending Village Code to establish short-term parking spaces within the Central Business District. Trustee Kuchler further detailed the reason for short-term parking spaces and noted that the Board may modify as deemed necessary.

Trustee Kuchler advised that the Village recently received a request from Aurelio's Pizza at 11 W. Calendar to allow two additional 15-minute parking spaces in front of their business to allow for customer pick-up.

Trustee Kuchler moved to approve the map amendment for short term parking spaces on the 0-100 block of W. Calendar Avenue, seconded by Trustee Langan.

Trustee Kuchler supports the concept, however favors the spaces be located in front of the restaurant rather than at the end of the block. Village Manager Pilipiszyn provided the logic for staff's recommendation to create the two additional 15-minute parking spaces on the north side of Calendar Avenue just west of La Grange Road.

Discussion ensued amongst Board and staff regarding the location for the additional 15-minute parking spaces.

Approved by a 6 to 0 roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

A. Ordinance (#O-14-42) – (1) Zoning Map Amendment and (2) Special Use Permit, Planned Development Concept and Final Site Plans for a Multiple family residential Building, 40 S. Ashland, 40 Ashland LLC and Michael Streit: Referred to Trustee McCarty

Trustee McCarty noted this project will require a change in zoning and relief from development standards. Trustee McCarty indicated the effectiveness of implementing the Village's Planned Development provisions for control over design, density and public amenities. Explaining the benefits for owners and the Village to work together to create a project that optimizes value, fills a market need, and adheres to higher design standards, Trustee McCarty provided a detailed summary of the proposed development at 40 South Ashland Avenue.

Trustee McCarty described the public hearing discussions regarding this project and the revisions provided by the applicant from their original submission.

Trustee McCarty indicated the Plan Commission's recommendation for approval and advised that representatives of 40 Ashland LLC are in attendance to answer any questions the Board may have.

Trustee McCarty moved to approve an ordinance granting zoning approvals for a multiple family residential project at 40 South Ashland Avenue, seconded by Trustee Holder.

President Livingston invited John Schiess, Architect for 40 S. Ashland to provide a presentation of the proposed development. Mr. Schiess annotated a Power Point presentation of the development and offered to answer any questions.

At 8:55 p.m. President Livingston invited discussion from the Village Board.

Trustee Holder expressed concerns that the development may interfere with the schools wi-fi communication. Mr. Schiess indicated his belief that the matter had been rectified, however will continue to work closely with the school's internet technology staff. Noting his support for the project, Trustee Holder appreciates the applicant's willingness to work with all involved.

Trustee Palermo inquired about Com Ed electrical deficiencies in that neighborhood. Mr. Schiess noted that they have communicated with ComEd to provide adequate service without additional costs to residents.

Trustee Kuchler noted his appreciation for the developer's willingness to work with all parties, however inquired if conditions should be documented in writing. Attorney Burkland advised that specifics could be recorded in a letter of agreement. Trustee Kuchler added his concerns for parking and Mr. Schiess responded that spaces would be dedicated to the units.

Trustee McCarty requested an explanation of storm water management for the development. Mr. Schiess referenced working with Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham and explained the process by which storm waters would be managed.

President Livingston noted the focus of staff on this project and thanked the developer for his interest in La Grange.

Approved by a 6 to 0 roll call vote.

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

- B. Ordinance (#O-14-43) – Referendum Question to Authorize a Three-Quarter Percent Increase in the Village’s Non-Home Rule Sales Tax: Referred to Trustee Nowak

Trustee Nowak provided background information on the recently approved food and beverage tax which is being utilized to maintain Village services; pension contributions; parking management; maintaining adequate reserves; and supplemental funding for a School Resource Officer. Trustee Nowak added that since the enactment of the food and beverage tax, the Village has received the final report from the La Grange 2020 Task Force which recommends maintaining and replacing infrastructure, enhancing public safety, and promoting economic development. Trustee Nowak stated that due to recent storms, severe flooding has prompted Board direction to staff for improvements to the Village’s storm water system.

As the current budget does not address needed revenues to support these critical items, Trustee Nowak explained the recommendation to place a referendum question on the April 7, 2015 consolidated election ballot to seek voter approval for a 0.75% increase in the Village’s non-home rule sales tax. Trustee Nowak indicated the approval for the increase in the Village’s current local retail sales tax from 0.25% to 1% would allow the Village to roll back the current food and beverage tax by 0.75% and impose a property tax freeze on the 2015 levy.

Commenting on the options for a maintenance budget and voter approval in the form of a referendum for an increase in the Village’s non-home rule sales tax, President Livingston indicated that the revenues derived to be generated will be utilized for capital needs, restoring funding for public safety, and economic development in a post-TIF era. President Livingston added that the Board would not be voting on a budget but rather options prior to budget approval. President Livingston noted the importance for improvements to the entire Village and explained that this item is open for discussion prior to seeking a motion for approval.

Trustee Holder inquired if the ballot question could include all of the relative facts associated with the Board’s plan for other reductions. Village Attorney responded negatively and advised that informational pamphlets could be provided to residents.

Trustee Palermo inquired about the time line in preparation of the budget. President Livingston advised of the importance for preparation related to the maintenance budget workshop discussion.

Trustee Langan expressed his favor to seek voter approval via a referendum question for increased sales tax revenues as presented.

Trustee Kuchler is also in favor to allow voters to decide, however is hopeful to be able to advise residents of the property tax freeze and reduction in the food and beverage tax.

Trustee Palermo clarified that only the Village's portion of the property tax bill is applicable and feels this should be relayed to residents.

Trustee McCarty feels the importance of communication to residents on all of the venues for this referendum so it is approached in a positive manner.

Trustee Nowak believes this to be a creative solution in a post-TIF era and supports presenting this to the voters. Trustee Nowak favors communication to voters to clarify that the increase in the non-home rule sales tax is to fund infrastructure and major priorities.

President Livingston noted this as beginning the budget preparation process and the Board could motion to vote on this or postpone a motion to vote until the next regular meeting.

Trustee Holder moved to approve an ordinance authorizing and directing the submission to the electors of the Village at the Consolidated Election on April 7, 2015 the question whether the Village may impose a 0.75 percent increase on the Village's Municipal Retailers' Occupation Tax and Municipal Service Occupation Tax, seconded by Trustee Langan.

Approved by 6 to 0 roll call vote.

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

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

None

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Steve Metsch, 1055 S. Catherine Avenue explained that he submitted a freedom of information request for details related to water main breaks in his area during the last five years. Although minimum costs were incurred, Mr. Metsch feels that the water main should be replaced. President Livingston thanked Mr. Metsch for his opinion.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Holder complimented staff for their preparation in the two recent development projects. Trustee Holder added his compliments to Trustee McCarty on his presentation of the 40 S. Ashland agenda item.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:45 p.m. Trustee Nowak moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Langan. Motion approved by voice vote.



Thomas E. Livingston, Village President

ATTEST:



John Burns, Village Clerk

Approved Date: December 8, 2014