

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
Village Hall Auditorium
53 South La Grange Road
La Grange, IL 60525

Monday, January 12, 2015 - 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 7:33 p.m. by President Livingston. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk John Burns, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder Kuchler, Langan, McCarty (arrived 7:34 p.m.), and Nowak

ABSENT: Trustee Palermo

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Village Attorney Mark Burkland
Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham
Fire Chief Don Gay
Deputy Police Chief Renee Strasser

President Livingston requested Clerk Burns lead the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Livingston announced that the La Grange Community Center will be hosting a public event celebrating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 19 at 11:00 a.m.

Identifying the Village's on-going public safety and maintenance operations during the holidays, President Livingston expressed thanks to departmental staff.

A. Oath of Office – Firefighter / Paramedic Mark Poulos

With a recent vacancy in the Fire Department created as a result of a resignation, the La Grange Board of Fire and Police Commissioners have appointed Mark Poulos to fill the position of Firefighter/Paramedic effective January 5, 2015. President Livingston requested he step forward and Village Clerk Burns to administer the oath of office.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None.

President Livingston noted the floor would be opened for public comments on the sewer improvements workshop after this item is presented.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Request to Purchase – Public Works Department / Equipment Replacement F350 Dump Truck
- B. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, Monday, December 8, 2014
- C. Consolidated Voucher 141222 – (\$722,165.35)
- D. Consolidated Voucher 150112 – (\$1,150,268.48)

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

Approved by roll call vote.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Palermo

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

None

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Pre-Budget Development Workshop – Sewer System Improvements

President Livingston requested Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn to introduce this item. Mr. Pilipiszyn invited Mr. Gillingham to respond.

Mr. Gillingham provided background information on previous workshops regarding sewer system improvements to reduce overland flooding due to severe rainfall events. Explaining the cost-effective benefits of a tiered solution approach, Mr. Gillingham noted the Board's approval to engage Baxter and Woodman to complete a hydrology study as well as sewer televising in order to provide options to reduce flooding in the areas south of 47th Street.

Mr. Gillingham added that after this evening's presentation and public discussion, staff is seeking direction as to flood mitigation priorities in preparation of the January 26 meeting whereby revenues will be reviewed to fund the capital expenditures. Mr. Gillingham introduced Mr. Mark Phipps and Mr. Paul Siegfried of Baxter and Woodman who will present the technical information of the hydraulic analysis.

Mr. Phipps provided a Power Point presentation relevant to data collection and graphics which had previously been provided to the Board in their agenda packets. Referencing prior survey results, Mr. Phipps explained the existing conditions and proposed improvement analyses. Annotating the depression areas, Mr. Phipps stated that Baxter and Woodman evaluated five proposed drainage improvements for effectiveness in alleviating flooding in the South Basin region of La Grange. Mr. Phipps described the proposed improvements as (1) a Brainard Avenue Floodwall; (2) a 50th Street storm sewer; (3) a 50th Street storm sewer with laterals and extensions; (4) a 50th Street storm sewer, with laterals, extension, and upsized outlet; and (5) a combination of alternates one and four. Mr. Phipps continued by annotating other improvements for consideration which consisted of the Plainfield Road storm sewer extension; the installation of inlet restrictors to provide flood storage in roadways; and larger diameter relief sewers. Trustee Holder inquired if the other improvements were in addition to the five alternates and Mr. Phipps indicated affirmatively. President Livingston suggested questions and discussion wait until the presentation was completed.

Mr. Phipps detailed each of the five proposed improvements and cost estimates. Providing additional information on the Brainard Avenue Floodwall, Mr. Phipps noted it may not be the most effective method for flood control in all of the depression areas. Although the improvements are extensive and extremely costly, Mr. Phipps noted the critical elements are rainfall depth and rainfall duration. Concluding his presentation, for the overall benefit to reduce flooding, Mr. Phipps noted that Baxter and Woodman recommends implementation of alternative 4, which includes the proposed relief sewer along 50th Street, laterals and extensions to depression areas.

Public Works Director, Mr. Gillingham then provided a report on the preliminary results for sewer televising noting that although there were no collapsed pipes there were found to be several areas in need of repair. Explaining that funding for these improvements are in addition to other on-going sewer projects, Mr. Gillingham added the possibility for grant opportunities through the Metropolitan Water Reclamation

District, the Federal Emergency Management Association, the State of Illinois as well as Cook County.

President Livingston expressed thanks to all for providing detailed information and recognized staff's request for direction in preparation for the upcoming Capital Improvements Budget Workshop on February 2. In light of voter approval of the increase in the non-home rules sales tax referendum question in April, President Livingston noted preparation of two budgets one to include the possible increase in the non-home rule sales tax along with a second maintenance budget in order to adhere to responsive financial resources.

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

As spokesman for local residents, Mr. Mike Matteucci expressed his thanks to the Board for prioritizing improvements to resolve flooding. Although solutions are costly and encompass the entire Village, Mr. Matteucci encouraged the recommendation for the Brainard Avenue Floodwall.

Ann Bennett, 644 S. Stone believes a less costly solution to flooding is to utilize permeable land as a possible detention area. Ms. Bennett suggested it may be helpful to have a temporary moratorium on the issuance of building permits. Adding that the burden of resolving flooding is township wide, Ms. Bennett feels that neighboring communities should share in the cost and solution.

Linda Rehor encourages the Board to allocate funding to resolve flooding for the entire community not just areas of depression. Ms. Rehor inquired if voters approve the sales tax referendum would the funds be utilized for sewers. President Livingston responded that the increased sales tax would not only be utilized for storm water management but also a greater level of bonding; public safety; economic development; and to reduce the need for cost containment measures.

Harlan Hirt, 421 S. Spring as a retired engineer indicated his dilemma related to the atlas of sewer system connections and believes the important factor is to solve the problem of flooding. Mr. Hirt inquired if the quarry and country club are included in the deliberations to resolve flooding. Mr. Hirt also inquired if the Maple Avenue Relief Sewer (MARS) and Ogden Avenue Relief Sewer (OARS) projects would be discontinued. Lastly, Mr. Hirt inquired if this evening's presentation is available to the Public. President Livingston noted the presentation is posted on the Village's website and available at the public library. Adding that all concerned parties are cooperative in resolving the flooding issues and the importance in continuing with the MARS and OARS projects, President Livingston requested Mr. Gillingham address the sewer system connections. Mr. Gillingham responded with a detailed explanation relating to sewer locations and connections.

Mr. Bozzano, 727 Spring expressed his favor of the Brainard Avenue Floodwall to alleviate flooding in his residential home.

President Livingston noted his favor of the 50th Street relief storm sewer alternative as it impacts several areas. Identifying the need to be cost effective and the urgency in providing some insurance to residents against flooding, President Livingston noted the importance of a flood wall. President Livingston indicated that sewer system improvements would continue to be discussed in the budget development process and requested the Board to provide their comments.

Much discussion ensued amongst the Board to address possible solutions to flooding in the South Basin. Discussions included working with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District; the capability to detain rain water from the country club; the advantages of greater diameter in sewer pipes; the need for Village wide capital improvements; cost for sewer improvements; as well as time factors. Examining numerous items related to the alternatives presented in the report from Baxter and Woodman and the need to remain responsible stewards of Village finances, Trustees tended to favor the Brainard Avenue Floodwall.

President Livingston noted the importance of this workshop discussion in preparation for upcoming workshops relating to revenues on January 26 and capital projects on February 2 in preparation of the budget document for Fiscal Year 2015-16.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Harlan Hirt expressed his concerns with the unsafe location of the U.S. Mail Box at the newly renovated Stone Avenue Train Station. Assistant Village Manager was asked to respond. Ms. Peterson noted that alternate locations are being reviewed as this is a temporary placement.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:42 p.m. Trustee Langan moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Nowak. Approved by voice vote.



Thomas E. Livingston, Village President

ATTEST:


John Burns, Village Clerk

Approved Date: January 26, 2015