

# Village Spokesman

Village of La Grange  
53 South La Grange Road  
La Grange, IL 60525



January/February 2015

**O**n behalf of the Village Board and Administration, Happy New Year! We would like to thank the numerous citizen volunteers who served on our advisory boards, commissions and task forces for their diligence with a busy docket of casework and policy recommendations in 2014.

The Village Board of Trustees will begin 2015 with budget development, focusing on strategic priorities such as sewer improvements, public safety and economic development. Although each year the Village adopts a budget in April, effective May 1, citizen input on setting tax policies and spending priorities is welcome throughout the year.



**Budget Development & Sales Tax Referendum** — on Monday December 8, the Village Board of Trustees adopted an ordinance to place a referendum question on the April 7, 2015 ballot. The referendum question seeks voter-approval to authorize a three-quarters of one percent increase in the Village's Non-Home Rule Sales Tax. It has been proposed that the increase would be used to fund sewer improvements, enhance public safety operations and spur economic development. The Village Board will also be considering the possibility of offsetting the sales tax increase (if it is approved) with a reduction or freeze in other existing Village taxes.

On Monday, January 12, the Village will conduct a pre-budget development workshop on sewer improvements in response to the severe rain events which the Village experienced during the summer of 2014. The workshop will begin with a presentation by engineering consultant Baxter and Woodman as to the results and findings from a storm water hydraulic analysis, followed by staff recommendations based on this and other investigative studies, and will conclude with an examination of cost estimates for the capital projects under consideration.

On Monday January 26, the Village will conduct a pre-budget development workshop on revenues needed to fund these capital expenditures. It is also during this workshop that the Village Board will discuss the alignment of referendum-oriented revenues and expenditures.

A special meeting of the Village Board is scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2015, in the Village Hall auditorium beginning at 7:30 p.m., to discuss capital projects and infrastructure improvements.

A budget workshop will be held on Saturday, March 14 in the lower level conference room of the Village Hall beginning at 8:00 a.m. to review revenue projections and operational expenditures for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2015.

It is anticipated that two budgets will be developed for consideration by the Village Board at its regular meeting on April 13. One will be a baseline budget and the other one will contain referendum-approved revenues.

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Village Hall  
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Village Spokesman

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**Economic Development** — The Village Board recently approved a 254 high-end multiple family rental development at the former YMCA property located at the corner of La Grange Road and Ogden Avenue with approximately 9,000 square feet of retail space. The Board also approved a high-end condominium development of 23 units at 40 S. Ashland Avenue. Both of these developments are consistent with transit-oriented developments that are recommended in the Village’s Comprehensive Plan to provide additional residential options. The Village is also pleased to announce that Anderson Bookshops will be occupying a portion of 26 S. La Grange Road and Orange Therapy (fitness and health) will be occupying 10 N. Ashland Avenue.

**Distinguished Budget Award**— The Governmental Finance Officers Association’s (GFOA) has awarded the “Distinguished Budget Presentation Award” to La Grange for the Village’s FY 2014-15 budget document. This is our twentieth (20) consecutive year of winning this prestigious award. The GFOA guidelines assess how well the Village budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device. This is a significant accomplishment, as La Grange is one of only 1,424 entities throughout North America presented with this prestigious award this year.



**Voter Registration** — The last day to accept voter registration or transfers of registration for the April 7, 2015 Consolidated Election is Tuesday, March 10, 2015. For additional information on registration, please visit [www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com/elections)

