

MINUTES

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

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

Monday, June 8, 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 7:30 p.m. by President Livingston. On roll call, as read by Village Clerk John Burns, the following were:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder (arrived 7:33pm), Kotynek, Kuchler, Langan, and McCarty, with President Livingston presiding.

ABSENT: Trustee Arnett

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

President Livingston requested that the Village Clerk lead the audience in reciting the pledge of allegiance.

2. PUBLIC HEARING – Issuance of General Obligation Alternate Revenue Bonds for Sewer System Improvements - Public Hearing concerning the intent of the President and Board of Trustees to sell not to exceed \$14,500,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of making certain improvements to the Village's sewer system: Referred to President Livingston

President Livingston announced that the first agenda item is a public hearing to receive public comment on the proposal to sell \$14.5 million General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) for the purpose of paying the costs of sewer system improvements, and that all persons desiring to be heard would have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony.

Opening the discussion, President Livingston indicated that over decades and more recently the Village has experienced multiple high intensity rain events which have exceeded the limited capacity of the Village's sewer system resulting in overland flooding in depressional areas.

President Livingston added that a hydraulic modeling study determined the most effective solution to reduce overland flooding is the construction of a 50<sup>th</sup> Street storm sewer, a lateral sewer to depression area 5, and a flood barrier on Brainard Avenue. Explaining that the projected costs of these sewer improvements exceeded available resources and reserves, President Livingston noted the Village has elected to raise revenues and issue bonds to fund the projects. President Livingston indicated the scope, details and funding for the projects were discussed through a series of pre-budget development workshops beginning in September 2014 and continuing through February 2015.

President Livingston advised that pursuant to statutory requirements, the Village published the authorizing bond ordinance and notice of intent in a local paper, which began the 30 day petition period to submit the question of the issuance of bonds for voter approval. The Village did not receive a petition seeking a referendum related to the bond issue.

President Livingston requested additional comments from the Board of Trustees, and / or any written testimony from Clerk Burns. Seeing none, President Livingston requested any public comments concerning the proposed bond issue. There being none, President Livingston announced that as all persons desiring to be heard have been given an opportunity to present oral and written testimony with respect to the proposed bond issue, he will seek a motion to finally adjourn the public hearing. Trustee Langan moved to adjourn the public hearing seconded by Trustee McCarty.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Kuchler, Kotynek, Langan, and McCarty  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Arnett

At 7:35 p.m. the regular Village Board meeting was convened, with the same Village Officials as the Public Hearing being in attendance.

### 3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Livingston expressed thanks to the Robert E. Coulter, Jr. American Legion Post 1941 for their Memorial Day ceremony; the La Grange Garden Club for their beautification efforts; the Pets and Pals Charities for their annual Pet Parade; and the La Grange Business Association for organizing the carnival. President Livingston noted the recent retirement of Police Sergeant Marge Kielczynski who would be recognized at a future Board meeting for her many years of public service.

#### A. Oath of Office – Police Sergeant Robert Wardlaw

With the recent retirement in the Police Department, the La Grange Board of Fire and Police Commissioners have promoted Investigator Robert Wardlaw to Police Sergeant on May 27, 2015. Noting his education, training and experience, President Livingston requested he step forward and asked that Village Clerk Burns administer the oath.

B. Oath of Office – Police Officer Ryan Nemecek

As the Board authorized the hiring of a police officer in accordance with the adopted referendum budget, the La Grange Board of Fire and Police Commissioners have appointed Ryan Nemecek to the position of Probationary Police Officer on May 26, 2015. Noting his background and education, President Livingston requested he step forward and asked Village Clerk Burns to administer the oath.

C. Appointments and Re-appointments – Advisory Boards and Commissions

President Livingston requested that Clerk Burns announce the names and term of office for members of advisory boards and commissions. President Livingston noted the individual's willingness to serve and recommended that the appointments and re-appointments to the various advisory boards and commissions be approved.

Trustee Langan moved to accept the appointments and re-appointments as announced, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Motion approved by voice vote.

D. Trustee Assignments

President Livingston noted the yearly rotation for Village Trustee assignments for Board Report presentations along with Trustee Liaison assignments. President Livingston noted these assignments would be effective at the conclusion of this evening's Village Board meeting.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Diane Danbury, 109 S. Madison expressed her opposition to the variation of fence requirements for the First United Methodist Church. Ms. Danbury noted public safety concerns and does not believe the Zoning Board of Appeals was provided accurate information. Ms. Danbury indicated that several residents have signed a petition against the variation.

Jim Danbury, 109 S. Madison added his opposition for the variation, explaining that although the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services has specific requirements for a minimum height of a four foot fence around the playground area, the applicant is seeking to construct a five foot fence. Mr. Danbury does not feel that the variation is appropriate

Lisa Scher, 128 S. Madison concurs with the Danbury's concerns. Ms. Scher is opposed to the location of the playground and safety issues due to reduced visibility.

George Mottier, 112 S. Madison is also opposed and feels the expanded playground and day care will increase traffic and congestion in the residential neighborhood.

5. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Award of Contract - (1) Construction of FY 2015-16 Neighborhood Street Resurfacing Project; (2) Construction Engineering Services Agreement

Resolution – MFT Expenditure

- B. Purchase – Fire Department / Cardiac Monitor / Defibrillators
- C. Ordinance (#O-15-22) – Prevailing Wages
- D. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Re-Scheduled Regular Meeting, Monday, May 11, 2015
- E. Consolidated Voucher 150525 (\$963,977.26)
- F. Consolidated Voucher 150608 (\$790,994.25)

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

Trustee Holder requested confirmation that prevailing wage rates were not applicable to the Village's Public Works employees and Village Attorney Burkland responded affirmatively.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Kotynek, Kuchler, McCarty and Langan  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Arnett

6. CURRENT BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance (#O-15-23) – Amendment to the Village Code Relating to the Community and Economic Development Commission & Appointments – Community and Economic Development Commission (CEDC): Referred to President Livingston

President Livingston noted the importance of focusing on changes to this commission in order to enhance economic growth. Advising that the amendment to increase members of the commission from nine to fifteen, President Livingston provided the names of the new members who have agreed to serve until 2018. It was moved by Trustee Langan to approve an ordinance amending the Village Code to reflect the change in composition for the Community and Economic Development Commission, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Trustee McCarty noted his favor of President Livingston's determination to increase the members for this commission.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Kuchler, Kotynek, McCarty, Holder and Langan  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Arnett

B. Special Event – 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Downtown La Grange Art & Craft Fair: Referred to Trustee Kuchler

Trustee Kuchler noted that the Village has received a request from the La Grange Business Association to hold the annual Art and Craft Fair on Saturday and Sunday, July 11 and 12, 2015. The LGBA is requesting to expand the location of the craft fair north of the railroad tracks on La Grange Road.

It was moved by Trustee Kuchler to approve the closure of Harris Avenue west of La Grange Road to Ashland Avenue and Madison Avenue from Harris south to just north of the Madison Avenue entrance to Parking Lot 8 located at Harris and Madison Avenues and the closure of Village Parking Lots 3 and 4 on each side of the Senior Center on July 11 and 12, 2015 for the La Grange Art and Craft Fair, seconded by Trustee McCarty.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Langan, Kotynek, Kuchler and McCarty  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Arnett

C. Ordinance – Variation – Fence in Front Yard / First United Methodist Church 100 W. Cossitt: Referred to Trustee McCarty

Trustee McCarty introduced the variation process and compliance with Village code. The applicants presented their application to construct a five foot fence around a proposed new playground on Madison Avenue and Cossitt Avenue at a public hearing held on April 16, 2015, Trustee McCarty noted the Zoning Board of Appeals recommended approval of the application and that the variation be granted as requested.

It was moved by Trustee McCarty to approve an ordinance granting a zoning variation for construction of a fence at 100 West Cossitt, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Trustee McCarty asked several questions related to the applicant's request for a variation including compliance with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services; public safety; operations; alternative locations; and residential opposition. Ms. Sue Skahill, Director of First United Methodist Pre-school responded to his inquiries.

Trustee Kotynek requested background information on other locations and Project Manager, Dan Ruzic responded.

Trustee Holder inquired of the fence height differences. Ms. Skahill responded with an explanation for their request of a five foot fence.

Trustee Langan requested clarification on the church's multi-purpose room currently utilized by the preschool. Ms. Skahill noted that the fenced in playground would be available should the church require the multi-purpose room for another function.

Trustee Kuchler expressed concerns for neighbors and those who have petitioned against the variation.

Ms. Stephanie Espinoza, spokesperson for the church, feels the best approach for the location and fence height have been presented.

After discussion, President Livingston noted the Board may decide to table this item; amend the motion; or vote on the motion as presented. Attorney Burkland confirmed these options.

Additional discussion ensued relating to the line of sight; fence height; safety, citizen concerns; and location.

Motion fails by a 5 to 0 roll call vote.

Ayes:	None
Nays:	Trustees Holder, Kuchler, Langan Kotynek, and McCarty
Absent:	Trustee Arnett

#### 7. MANAGER'S REPORT

President Livingston inquired if there was a Manager's report. Village Manager Pilipiszyn responded positively noting updates on the Brainard Avenue Floodwall; various capital projects; and consolidated dispatch. Manager Pilipiszyn requested that Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham provide further information. Mr. Gillingham responded with the status of the floodwall. Trustee Holder inquired if the Village is working with the La Grange Country Club and Manager Pilipiszyn concurred. Mr. Gillingham also provided updates on various resurfacing projects and sidewalk replacement program.

Manager Pilipiszyn asked Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson to provide an update on consolidated dispatch. Ms. Peterson responded that the Villages of La Grange, La Grange Park and Western Springs have worked together in the planning and developmental stages of the combined center. Explaining the recruitment process, Ms. Peterson noted that Kimberly Knutson has been appointed as Executive Director. Ms. Peterson added that Ms. Knutson began her employment on June 1 and will be working with area Chiefs and Managers from each municipality.

#### 8. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Ms. Danbury thanked the Board for their thoughtful deliberations on the requested variation item.

#### 9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Closed Session – Matters related to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees.

President Livingston asked for a motion to adjourn to closed session and the Village Board would not reconvene to open session as no formal action would occur and that the next Village Board meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2015.

Trustee Langan moved to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, or performance of a specific employee of the Village. The motion was seconded by Trustee Holder

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Kuchler, Kotynek, McCarty, Holder and Langan  
Nays: None  
Absent: Trustee Arnett

10. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:00 p.m. Trustee Langan moved to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Holder. Approved by voice vote.



Thomas E. Livingston, Village President

ATTEST:



John Burns, Village Clerk

Approved Date:

July 13, 2015