

MINUTES

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

Monday, April 26, 2010 - 7:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Administrative Secretary Ellie Elder, the following were:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo with President Asperger presiding.

ABSENT: Village Clerk Milne

OTHERS: Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham
Fire Chief David Fleege
Police Chief Mike Holub

2. RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN VOLUNTEERS

President Asperger stated that the agenda for this evening's meeting would only consist of recognition to citizen volunteers who have rendered thoughtful and dedicated service to the Village by participating on various advisory boards and commissions over the past year. Sincere thanks are extended to those individuals who share their time, talent, ideas and feedback on numerous issues that come before Board.

President Asperger explained that each Trustee along with Village staff would give a brief synopsis of the functions of each advisory board and commission, announce the names of the members along with their years of service.

Board of Fire and Police Commissioners (3-year term, 3 members)

Fire Chief David Fleege stated that in accordance with State Statute, the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners oversee certain personnel matters within the Fire and Police Departments. They are responsible for the initial appointment of all full-time firefighters/paramedics and police officers; they make promotional appointments; and administer disciplinary action. Chief Fleege added that this past year the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners created a new Police Lieutenant Eligibility Register to replace the expired list. To fill vacancies due to retirements within the Fire Department, the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners subsequently approved promotions to the rank of Fire Captain and Fire Lieutenant and hired two firefighter/paramedics.

Currently the Board of Fire and Police Commission is in the process of developing a new Police Officer Eligibility Register to replace the expired list. Due to the vast number of applicants for Police Officer, the Board of Fire and Police Commission elected to amend their rules and regulations limiting the number of applicants they would administer an oral test based on historical averages and anticipated hiring needs during the term of the register.

Members are: Mark A. Lies, II, Chairman – 11 years of service; Larry Gess – 7 years of service; and Wayne Vantluka 4 years of service. Best wishes were extended to Larry Gess as he will be relocating out of La Grange.

Community & Economic Development Commission (3-year term, 9 members)

Trustee Kuchler noted that this commission makes recommendations to the Village Board regarding economic development issues and matters related to the relationships between residential neighborhoods and commercial business districts. Trustee Kuchler explained that since it was established in 2007 the Community and Economic Development Commission has offered recommendations relating to the renovation of the La Grange Theater and residential and business concerns in the West End corridor.

Although this is a recent re-organized commission, three members had previously served on the former Economic Development Commission.

Members are: Taylor Jaeger, Chairwoman – 14 years of service; Roger Laven – 19 years of service; Steve Palmer 10 years of service; Margaret Carlson; Mark Reich; Elizabeth Stiles and Lester Williams all serving for 3 years; Richard Holly and John Stewart serving for 1 year.

Design Review Commission (3-year term, 7 members)

Trustee Livingston explained that the Design Review Commission reviews matters related to the Central Business District Façade Renovation / Restoration Program. The commission also reviews and offers recommendations to the Village Board on design review applications within the design overlay district and reviews appeals regarding the denial of sign permits.

Trustee Livingston listed the permit applications reviewed in this fiscal year and explained that the commission's responsibilities have been expanded to include public art.

Members are: Andrea Barnish, Chairwoman – 18 years of service; Regina Mc Linton – 19 years of service; Mark Ozer – 8 years of service; Tim Reardon and Gary Young – 3 years of service; Michael Thuma and Carol Visek 1 year of service.

Environmental Quality Control Commission – (2-year term, 7 members)

Trustee Horvath explained how this commission inventories sources of environmental pollution which may have a harmful effect upon the public health, safety and welfare of residents. They also review public notices from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Trustee Horvath noted that the commission has considered matters involving “green” initiatives, which includes heightened public awareness of natural resources.

Members are: Glenn Wentink, Chairman – 22 years of service; Harlan Hirt – 36 years of service; Patty Weber – 30 years of service; Richard Battistoni – 20 years of service; F. Peter Gabrek – 11 years of service; and Linda Christianson 1 year of service.

Plan Commission – (3-year term, 7 members)

Trustee Langan explained that the Plan Commission reviews and recommends applications submitted for special use permits, planned development approval, site plan approval, amendments to the Zoning Code, vacation of public-rights-of-way, and subdivision plats. The Plan Commission recently conducted public hearings and considered issues related to amendments to the two-family district requiring design standards for new construction conversion of two-family dwellings, amendments to the use lists in all of the commercial districts, special use and new site plan for renovation/expansion of a nursing care facility and an administrative process to allow minor adjustments in the single-family districts.

Future discussions will embark on a review of the remaining sections of the Zoning Code to complete a comprehensive update of the Code.

Trustee Holder, formerly on the Plan Commission announced the members as: Wayne Kardatzke, Chairman – 15 years of service; Jerry Reich 10 years of service; Tom Williams – 3 years of service; Laura Weyrauch, Vice Chairwoman – 3 years of service; Greg Paice – 2 years of service; Jeff Nowak – 1 year of service; and newly appointed Nancy Pierson 2 months of service.

Trustee Langan recognized Stephen Randolph who stepped down after serving the Village for 20 years.

Zoning Board of Appeals – (5-year term, 7 members)

Trustee Palermo stated that the Zoning Board of Appeals reviews applications for relief from one or more requirements of the Village's Zoning Code, conducts public hearings and makes recommendations to the Village Board regarding those applications for zoning variations. Trustee Palermo noted some typical requests discussed and reviewed by the Zoning Board of Appeals include front, side and rear yard setbacks, and garage size requirements.

Members are: Ellen Brewin, Chairwoman – 16 years of service; Nat Pappalarado – 27 years of service; Ian Brenson – 4 years of service; Kathy Schwappach – 4 years of service; Rosemary Naseef 3 years of service; and Peter O'Connor 1 year of service.

Trustee Palermo recognized Charles Benson, Jr. who stepped down after serving the Village for 20 years.

President Asperger announced that the Village Board would also like to thank several citizen volunteers who hold appointed positions and requested members of staff to recognize these individuals.

Police Chief Holub, on behalf of the Village, expressed his gratitude to the Police Auxiliary Force and Jim Liotta who has served on the Auxiliary Police Force for over 27 years, the last 16 years as Director.

Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson expressed the Village's gratitude to Curtis Linder who has represented the Village of La Grange by serving as a Trustee on the West Suburban Mass Transit District. This organization provides financial assistance to member communities to implement commuter-related improvements. Mr. Linder has served on the Board since November 2009.

Finance Director Cipparrone expressed the Village's gratitude to former Village Trustee and for the past 10 years Village Comptroller Lawrence Kinports. As Village Comptroller, Mr. Kinports provides oversight to the Finance Department, including review of the annual budget, audit and interim financial reports for the purpose of advising the Village Board on the financial position of the Village.

Before adjourning, Village President Asperger and the Village Board applauded the advisory boards and commissions and invited them to attend a reception at Nicksons Eatery whereby personal thanks could be conveyed.

3. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:55 p.m. the Village Board adjourned.

Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk

Approved Date