

MINUTES

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

Monday, November 8, 2010 - 7:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Board of Trustees of the Village of La Grange regular meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Asperger. On roll call, as read by Administrative Secretary Ellie Elder, the following were present:

PRESENT: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo

ABSENT: Village Clerk Milne

OTHERS: Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn
Assistant Village Manager Andrianna Peterson
Village Attorney Mark Burkland
Finance Director Lou Cipparrone
Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin
Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham
Fire Chief William Bryzgalski
Police Chief Mike Holub

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Asperger invited residents to attend and participate in the last of a series of three Town Meetings on Monday, November 22, which is being held at the Community Center, 200 Washington Avenue.

President Asperger noted that earlier this evening a liquor commission meeting was held to consider liquor license applications made by Back Alley Burger, 13 S. La Grange Road and Bin 19 LLC, 19 S. La Grange Road, with a recommendation to place these items on a the next agenda for consideration by the Village Board.

Announcing that the Village Hall would be closed on Thursday, November 11 in observance of Veteran's Day, President Asperger invited the public to attend a Veteran's Day Tribute hosted by the Robert E. Coulter American Legion Post 1941 at 11:00 a.m.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None.

4. OMNIBUS AGENDA AND VOTE

- A. Ordinance (#O-10-32) Design Review Permit (DRP) #80, 1 West Harris, Burcor Properties / Jerry Burjan
- B. (Moved to Current Business for further discussion.)
- C. Purchase – Public Works Department / Replacement of Multipurpose Tractor (EJ Equipment, Inc., Chicago, IL - \$84,586)
- D. Minutes of the Village of La Grange Board of Trustees Regular Town Meeting Monday, October 25, 2010
- E. Consolidated Voucher 101108 – (\$678,045.01)

Trustee Kuchler requested item 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 roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston and Palermo
Nays: None
Absent: None

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

- 4-B Purchase – Public Works Department / Replacement of Street Sweeper (Removed from Omnibus for further discussion.)

Trustee Kuchler described the ways in which the street sweeper is utilized and the frequency of use, specifically in the Central Business District. The Village's mechanic has determined the existing sweeper has outlived its usefulness and requires several major repairs. Trustee Kuchler added that the Equipment Replacement Fund provides for routine replacement on existing equipment to reduce equipment downtime and increase equipment reliability. Trustee Kuchler noted that there are only two manufacturers of street sweepers which meet Village requirements.

It was moved by Trustee Kuchler that the Village Board waive the competitive bidding process and authorize the purchase of a street sweeper from Standard Equipment Company in the amount of \$134,456, seconded by Trustee Horvath.

Trustee Kuchler requested an explanation of the purpose of a street sweeper. President Asperger referred his inquiry to Public Works Director Ryan Gillingham. Mr. Gillingham responded that the street sweeper picks up numerous amounts of debris throughout the community.

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn added that in addition to appearance for the Village, sweeping streets keeps debris from accumulating in catch basins.

Trustee Kuchler understands why the sweeper would be needed in the fall for leaf pick up, however questioned the option to lease equipment rather than purchase.

Trustee Holder identified his belief that there is a need for year round maintenance of streets.

President Asperger added her concurrence that elimination of debris on Village streets in and around local schools is necessary.

Trustee Horvath inquired about the cost to repair current equipment rather than purchase new. Mr. Gillingham noted the importance of having equipment readily available and estimated repair costs would be extreme. Trustee Horvath suggested that in the future, staff provide additional information on projected cost of repairs.

Trustee Palermo inquired about the use of rebuilt or refurbished equipment and Mr. Gillingham responded that it is not recommended.

Trustee Langan noted the equipment replacement fund exists for such items and he will support the purchase.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes:	Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston and Palermo
Nays:	None
Absent:	None

- A. Preliminary Review of the Proposed 2010 Property Tax Levy Request (#R-10-19): Referred to Trustee Holder

Trustee Holder stated that this is a preliminary review of the proposed 2010 property tax levy request and explained that the Truth in Taxation Law requires a preliminary review of the proposed tax levy at least 20 days prior to its adoption.

If the aggregate levy is more than 5% greater than the preceding year's extension, exclusive of debt service, the Village must hold a public hearing before adopting the proposed property tax levy. Since the proposed Truth in Taxation levy request, excluding debt service, shows a total increase of 3.73% over the prior years' extension, the Village of La Grange is not required to hold a public hearing regarding the 2010 property tax levy. Trustee Holder indicated the Property Tax Limitation Act limits the increase in property tax extensions, exclusive of debt service and new property growth to 5% or the percent increase of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) whichever is less. The CPI for the 2010 tax levy determined as of December 2009 was 2.7%.

Trustee Holder added that the La Grange Public Library is a municipal library not a library district therefore the library levy is a part of the Village levy. The Library's tax levy request represents an increase of 3.73% over the 2009 property tax levy extension.

At this time the Village is announcing the 2010 preliminary tax levy and the ordinance adopting the 2010 tax levy will be presented at the December 13th Village Board meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Holder that the Village Board approve the Resolution announcing the estimated 2010 tax levy of \$7,912,373, exclusive of debt service, which is a 3.73% increase from the 2009 tax levy, seconded by Trustee Langan.

Trustee Livingston acknowledged that the tax levy is part of the budget development process to make clear, a significant portion of the Village's financial capabilities. In this unusual economic year, Trustee Livingston notes the Board faces some tough choices in preparation of the upcoming budget.

Trustee Horvath agrees with Trustee Livingston and looks forward to staff's recommendations to for the budget.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

B. La Grange Business Association / 2010 Hometown Holiday – Request for Village Sponsorship: Referred to Trustee Langan

Trustee Langan explained that the December 4, 2010 Hometown Holiday has always been a positive reflection of the Village of La Grange and brings shoppers into the community. This is the 19th annual event and the La Grange Business Association is requesting the Village co-sponsor the event in an amount not to exceed \$12,000. Trustee Langan added that the Village's position of sponsorship is marketing the event, which includes newspaper advertisements, posters and the production and mailing of the booklet which lists the activities for the evening.

Trustee Langan listed the conditions outlined in the sponsorship policy and noted that approval would include compliance to those conditions. Trustee Langan noted that La Grange Business Association President, Ryan Williamson and other members are in attendance to answer any questions on this year's event.

It was moved by Trustee Langan to support the Hometown Holiday's cost of advertising and marketing for 2010 in an amount not to exceed \$12,000, with the conditions as outlined in the Village's sponsorship policy, seconded by Trustee Holder.

Mr. Williamson thanked the Board and staff for their consideration of support for this event.

Trustee Horvath inquired about electronic methods to advertise the event. Mr. Williamson added his openness for suggestions.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo
Nays: None
Absent: None

6. MANAGER'S REPORT

A. Continued Discussion – Village Board Strategic priority / Economic Development – Enhanced Support for the LGBA

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn gave an overview of a previous workshop whereby the Village Board noted their consensus for economic development in maintaining and possibly enhancing support for the La Grange Business Association. Mr. Pilipiszyn requested Community Development Director Patrick Benjamin to elaborate on the process and outcome of discussions with the La Grange Business Association and their request for additional support.

Mr. Benjamin indicated several meetings and discussions with the officers of the La Grange Business Association regarding management of the numerous events along with marketing the business community. Mr. Benjamin presented a proposed detail budget to enhance cost-effectiveness for the association's needs in coordinating special events and organization of operations.

The La Grange Business Association is seeking a technical assistance stipend from the Village which would assist them in obtaining a staff person for program management. Mr. Benjamin noted that staff is recommending utilizing the use of the TIF surplus for this stipend.

Trustee Kuchler expressed his strong objection to this matter.

Trustee Palermo wondered if an event planner may be more appropriate rather than hiring a part-time individual. Mr. Benjamin responded. Trustee Palermo shares his reluctance to consider the matter at this time, given budget challenges ahead. He feels that the proposal should be set aside for the time being and considered at a later date.

Trustee Horvath concurs that timing is an issue and would prefer not to move on the recommendation at this time.

Mr. Williamson explained how the organization operates, relying heavily on volunteers for event planning and execution. A staff person would provide considerable and necessary administrative relief.

President Asperger expressed the Board's appreciation for the La Grange Business Association and feels the Board is willing to support promotional events and marketing activities, however is reluctant to support an administrator for the organization.

Trustee Livingston noted that economic development is a priority for the Village and suggested that the Board keep this as a "live" discussion pending further development of the Village budget.

B. Status Report – Review of the Village's Operations Plan

Village Manager Robert Pilipiszyn provided the Village Board with a summary of activities and accomplishments pursuant to the Village's strategic plan, since the initial Operations Plan was presented back in April. Mr. Pilipiszyn stated that within the first ten months of 2010, the Village Board has conducted seven workshops, setting policy and providing direction to staff on the "higher order" priorities. He described the content and outcome of each of those workshops. Mr. Pilipiszyn highlighted approximately fifteen operational activities during the same period pursuant towards achieving the Village Board's strategic priorities.

Mr. Pilipiszyn indicated the entire Strategic Plan, as updated through the Operations Plan, is posted on the Village's website for those who wish to monitor the progress made by the Village Board and staff.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING MATTERS NOT ON AGENDA

Nancy Kenney, 400 S. Peck Avenue as a former resident and since returning to the Village, complimented the Village Board and La Grange Business Association on moving forward. Ms. Kenney noted her pride in the Village.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Closed Session – Matters Related to Collective Bargaining and Specific Employees

President Asperger indicated that there would be a motion to adjourn to closed session immediately following this meeting and the Village Board would not reconvene to open session as no formal action would occur.

Trustee Langan moved to adjourn to closed session to discuss matters related to collective bargaining and specific employees, seconded by Trustee Livingston.

Approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Trustees Holder, Horvath, Kuchler, Langan, Livingston, and Palermo
Nays: None
Absent: None

9 TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Langan noted the importance of recognition for the Village's support for the 2010 Hometown Holiday.

Trustee Horvath expressed congratulations to the Lyons Township football team.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:00 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth M. Asperger, Village President

ATTEST:

Robert N. Milne, Village Clerk

Approved Date: 11/22/10